Toronto metro
Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2015

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SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 22

ELECTION DEBATE BINGO

PLAY FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A MONTH OF FREE RIDES ON THE TTC

metroNEWS

Toronto metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2015 | High 25°C/Low 14°C Sun and cloud

OLIVE MADNESS ON THE DANFORTH

metroNEWS

Community heated over book burner

CRIME

Police involved after little free library becomes target of vandal

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Residents of Toronto's Beach neighbourhood are looking to charge a delinquent library user with something more than just a late fee.

A vandal stole books over the weekend from a Little Free Library on Wrenson Road, set them on fire and left the singed remains littered around the neighbourhood.

The blackened remains of a stolen book. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

"They threw them in a corner and burnt the rest of them. It was absolutely disgusting," said Coun. Mary-Margaret McMahon, who was informed of the incident by a constituent.

Little Free Libraries — community-run boxes where residents can borrow or leave books for free — have become popular in McMahon's ward.

"We have the most little libraries of any ward in Toronto, and we're really proud of that," she said, noting the boxes are popular with both local children and seniors. "They're great community builders. They become these little community hubs and promote literacy for all ages."

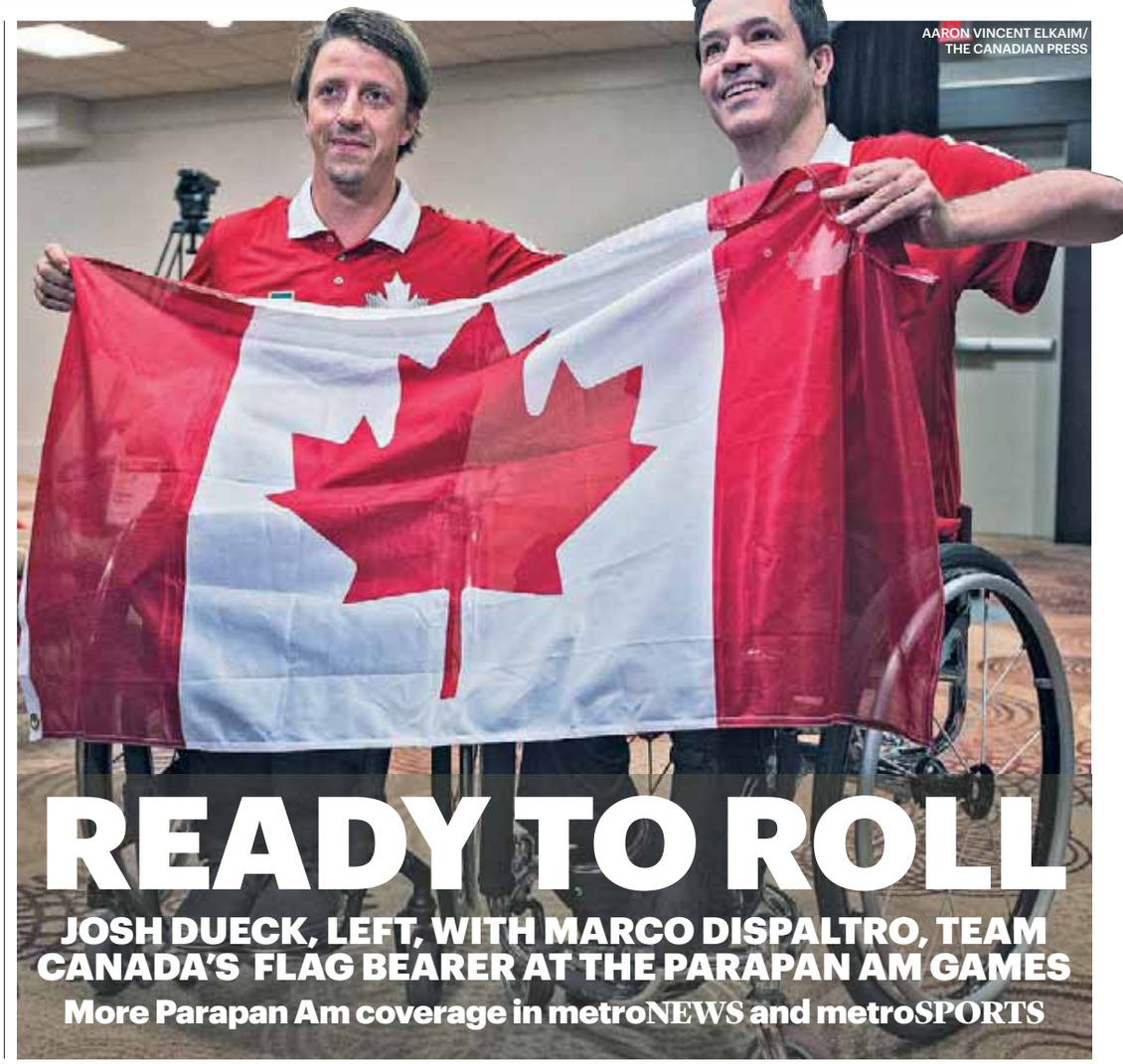
McMahon was at a loss to explain why someone would target the little libraries, and said she hopes the incident is a "one-off."

Police from 55 Division are investigating the crime and are appealing to the public for information.

Meanwhile, McMahon said the operators of the Wrenson-area little library are already busy rebuilding their small collection.

"I'm sure they'd be open to some donations," she said.

WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

READY TO ROLL

JOSH DUECK, LEFT, WITH MARCO DISPALTRO, TEAM CANADA'S FLAG BEARER AT THE PARAPAN AM GAMES

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CAN THE SHOW GO ON WITHOUT CHRIS?

AND HYNDMAN'S MOTHER SPEAKS OUT

metroNEWS

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Visitors gather at the public memorial for Chris Hyndman of the CBC show Steven and Chris at the CBC Broadcast Centre on Front Street on Wednesday. AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Paying their respects

STEVEN AND CHRIS

Memorial at CBC building open to fans until Friday

The death of Chris Hyndman, co-host of Steven and Chris, has left fans uncertain whether the lifestyle show should go on.

As people streamed into CBC's atrium, where a display memorializing Hyndman was created Wednesday, show watchers told the Star that maybe Steven and Chris should remain where it is now: off the air.

> **It would be hard to see him with someone else.**
> Fan Alexis Arscott

"I don't think they can carry on without him," said Alexis Arscott, who has watched Hyndman on other shows as well. "He's too big a part of the show."

The co-star of the hit TV show was found without vital signs in a downtown Toronto alley on Monday, just below the apartment he shared with Steven Sabados, his co-host and spouse. CBC spokesman Chuck Thompson said Steven and Chris has been pulled from the schedule.

Some, such as Karen Corkhill, do want to see the show continue, but she added it would not be the fans' call.

"That's probably up to Mr. Hyndman's partner," she said.

Hyndman's would be really big shoes for a new co-host to fill, said May Leong, who has watched the show from the beginning.

"Steve's really good, but I don't know whether they can find a replacement."

Hyndman's memorial book was also signed by throngs of people who have worked with the show — some of whom barely exchanged words with the host but were captivated by his personality.

Thompson said there are no immediate plans on the future of Steven and Chris.

The memorial display is scheduled to continue until Friday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A MOM'S GRIEF

The grieving mother of television personality Chris Hyndman believes her only child fell to his death while sleepwalking on the terrace of his apartment.

"Christopher was a sleepwalker, and he did that a lot. He even ate in his sleep," Glenda Hyndman said of her son, who co-hosted the CBC's popular daytime TV show Steven and Chris. "It's not good, but that's his reality.

"He was the most incredible human being and best son you could ever have."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CRIME

Police identify victims of Muzik club shooting

Ariela Navarro-Fenoy just wanted to see Drake.

The 26-year-old was a huge fan of the rapper, and although she wasn't able to get into his OVO Fest, she did make it into his after-party at Muzik, the popular nightclub at Exhibition Place, on Monday night with some friends. Around 11 p.m., she texted friend Jabari Bowry to say they had made it inside.

By 3:30 a.m., she was dead, an innocent bystander caught up, just north of the Dufferin Gate, in a brazen shooting incident that also claimed the life — inside the club — of 23-year-old Duvel Hibbert, who, according to a police source, had been targeted.

Three others were injured.

A GoFundMe campaign to cover the costs of a funeral surpassed its $12,000 goal by Wednesday afternoon.

Hibbert, from Brampton, was due to appear at Old City Hall court in Toronto on Thursday on charges of possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking and breaching bail, said his lawyer, John Erickson.

Shooting victims Ariela Navarro-Fenoy and Duvel Hibbert. CONTRIBUTED

"All I can say is that nobody — no matter how long your criminal record is, nobody deserves (to die like that)," Erickson said. "And from what I saw, he was trying to make a genuine effort to live a productive lifestyle."

Hibbert was out on bail over drug-related charges in Brampton. He had previously served a three-year sentence on gun-related offences. He breached his parole for those offences in 2013, and was subsequently arrested by Peel Regional Police.

Police have released descriptions of two persons of interest from Tuesday's shooting and are appealing to witnesses to submit information to investigators.

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COMING UP

Tonight's parley likely the first of many

Thursday's election debate is the first of several planned before people head to the polls Oct. 19.

Along with the traditional consortium debates — scheduled for Oct. 7 in French and Oct. 8 in English — there are several others on the horizon.

In same cases, exact dates and times have not been confirmed and it's unclear exactly who will participate.

Still, here's at least some of what's in the works.

Sept. 17: The economy will be in the spotlight when party leaders square off in Calgary at a forum organized by The Globe and Mail and Google Canada. The first half of the 90-minute debate will cover these themes: jobs, energy and the environment, infrastructure, housing and taxation. The rest of the event will delve deeper into the leaders' responses and see questions from voters.

Oct. 19

Canada's 42nd general election will be held on Oct. 19.

September: Leaders will talk foreign policy as part of the Aurea Foundation's running series of Munk Debates at Roy Thompson Hall. The debate will be in English.

Oct. 2: At this French-only debate, any topic will be fair game. It's organized by TVA, a French-language television network that's a subsidiary of Quebecor Media. The debate will play out in Montreal.

Why so many debates? See our explainer in MetroViews.

METRO

The first debate in the run-up to the election will include party leaders Stephen Harper, Elizabeth May, Justin Trudeau and Tom Mulcair. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Keeping the fun in debate

ANALYSIS

A little levity can help voters become a lot more engaged

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

When you're watching the federal election debate, go ahead and have a laugh.

Tonight's national leaders debate, hosted by Maclean's Magazine and playing out in Toronto, will give voters a chance to learn more about the party leaders and their platforms — undoubtedly an important event in Canadian democracy.

But it doesn't have to be boring.

As a matter of fact, it's "really important" to make it fun, said Jane Hilderman, executive director of Samara Canada, a charity devoted to engaging people in politics.

When people engage in the debate in a social way, share a joke or two, it's more likely to be meaningful to them.

"If we're all engaged in watching the debate, that means it matters," Hilderman said. "If we're laughing while we do it, too, that means we're more likely to remember the experience and feel engaged by it."

She'd love to see great Canadian satirists get involved as the campaign progresses.

"Certainly, with the long campaign, there should be lots of material," she added.

Research shows that people who are heavily involved in political campaigns always say they have a great time, she said.

"Fun should be a part of politics. It's not immediately what people think of, but it's there."

So, throw an election debate party or watch it in a bar. Paupers, in the Annex, for example, will turn the TVs to the debate for anyone who asks.

Maybe even tweet a humorous observation or two.

Hilderman will be watching the debate at an event with Samara's volunteers, and they'll be playing a game in which people make debate predictions. For example: how many times will the politicians refer to the middle class?

For more political laughs, you can mix the Maclean's debate with some of the U.S. Republican primary debate, which begins at 9 p.m., before the Maclean's debate ends at 10.

HOW TO WATCH

- The Maclean's federal leaders debate runs from 8 to 10 p.m.
- You can live-stream at macleans.ca/debate and youtube.com/MacleansMagazine
- It will be broadcast in English on CityTV, in English and French on CPAC and in Italian, Punjabi, Mandarin and Cantonese on OMNI.

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August 16, 2015

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METROLINX

DEBATE BINGO

Under the M ...

M E T R

	Mulcair invokes Tommy Douglas			Someone refers to the Liberal leader by his first name only
Harper says: "Keep our economy strong and our country safe."		Mike Duffy gets a mention		
		This free space is brought to you by hard-working middle-class families)		Trudeau points out that his family, and Harper's, are wealthy
Mulcair strokes his beard			Harper smirks	
	Elizabeth May keeps talking, won't be interrupted		One of the male candidates wears a tie that is not his party's colour	

CALLING ALL BINGO LOVERS!

Tonight's election debate promises to be full of fascinating — not to mention important — stuff. But, as with any political discussion, there are sure to be some dry moments.

How better to pass the time than with a little game of bingo or, in this case, M-E-T-R-O?

Here's how it works:

1. Using the game card on this page, fill in the blank squares with things you're pretty sure will happen during the debate and tune in.
2. Every time something on your card plays out (either the predictions we've made or the ones we've left up to you), mark the appropriate square.
3. When you get a full line in any direction, take a picture of the card and tweet it to @metroto-ronto #MetroBingo or email it to angela.mul-lins@metronews.ca with #MetroBingo in the subject line.
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Howard Lichtman enjoys a kalamata olive at a parkette in Toronto's Greektown, at Logan and Danforth avenues. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Time for you to taste 'olive' the Danforth

FESTIVAL

Organizers take aim at another Guiness record

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Taste of the Danforth organizers are looking to make the popular Greek festival a record-setting affair — four times over.

In keeping with the culinary theme, festival-goers will have a shot at setting the record for the largest number of people to eat an olive over an eight-hour period.

"You just have to eat one," explained Taste of the Danforth organizer Howard Lichtman. "It's not about how many you can shove in your face."

And if olives aren't your thing, participants can show off their soccer skills in a bid to crack the record for most penalty kicks in a day.

Setting or breaking a Guinness record has been a Taste of the Danforth tradition since 2013, when organizers filled a giant container with 1,322 pounds of Greek yogurt, breaking a previous record for the largest yogurt container held, at the time, by a dairy farm in South Africa.

The following year, the festival broke records for most people participating in a long jump and a tug of war — activities that were used as training exercises for ancient Greek soldiers, Lichtman said.

"It's just about having fun, and like the rest of the festival we try to add some Greek flavour to it," he said.

In order to make this year's records official, the festival is hiring witnesses, soccer officials and a film crew to document everything.

"We've become kind of professionals about doing these Guinness challenges now, so we know about all the technical stuff," Lichtman said.

IF YOU GO

The three-day festival kicks off Friday. For the full rundown, visit tasteofthedanforth.com.

UNITED CHURCH

Atheist minister fights to save her job

An ordained United Church of Canada minister who believes in neither God nor Bible said Wednesday she is prepared to fight an unprecedented attempt to boot her from the pulpit for her beliefs.

In an interview at her West Hill church, Rev. Gretta Vosper said congregants support her view that how you live is more important than what you believe in.

"I don't believe in...the god called God," Vosper said. "Using the word gets in the way of sharing what I want to share."

Vosper, 57, who was ordained in 1993 and joined her east-end Scarborough church in 1997, said the idea of an interventionist, supernatural being on which so much church doctrine is based belongs to an outdated world view.

Rev. Gretta Vosper
THE CANADIAN PRESS

What's important, she says, is that her views hearken to Christianity's beginnings, before the focus shifted from how one lived to doctrinal belief in God, Jesus and the Bible.

"Is the Bible really the word of God? Was Jesus a person?" she said.

"It's mythology. We build a faith tradition upon it which shifted to find belief more important than how we lived."

Vosper made her views clear as far back as a Sunday sermon in 2001 but her congregation stood behind her until a decision to do away with the Lord's Prayer in 2008 prompted about 100 of the 150 members to leave. The rest backed her.

Things came to a head this year after she wrote an open letter to the church's spiritual leader pointing out that belief in God can motivate bad things — a reference to the Charlie Hebdo massacre in Paris.

"That didn't go over well," Vosper said. "(But) if we are going to continue to use language that suggests we get our moral authority from a supernatural source, any group that says that can trump any humanistic endeavour."

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TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Book-lending kiosk coming to Union

Checking out books from the library is about to get easier for commuters.

The Toronto Public Library is hoping to roll out a book-lending machine at Union Station by the end of the year and if it's successful, more could be on their way. The move is a novel idea aimed at making the library more accessible to Torontonians and broadening the number of users, which sits around 18.5 million annually.

"You aren't expecting a library presence in Union Station so it will be a convenient way for commuters to access library content," said Ana-Maria Critchley, the library's manager of stakeholder relations.

Because the organization is still searching for vendors to take on the project and working with stakeholders at Union Station to choose a spot for it, she said the machine's exact functions have yet to be determined.

However, a library report from earlier this year said initial planning for the kiosk "focussed on access to high demand books and DVDs," but "may be adjusted to incorporate downloading e-books."

Some of those functions are already available in Ottawa, Edmonton and major cities in the U.S. and Europe, where book-lending machines are available 24/7, allowing readers with busy schedules to scoop up books without having to contend with traditional library hours.

Some even offer lockers where readers can pick up items they have placed on hold.

Several of the cities have strategically placed the kiosks at transit hubs so readers can borrow books for the short period of time they spend waiting for a subway or bus.

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Boccia player Marco Dispaltro speaks after being presented as the flag bearer for Team Canada during a Parapan American Games press conference Wednesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dispaltro is flag bearer

PARAPAN AM GAMES

Boccia player defied doctors' predictions of a short life

At twice the age of most of his rivals, Marco Dispaltro likes to think of himself as the Gordie Howe of wheelchair sports.

And to think doctors once told him he likely wouldn't live to see 40.

The 48-year-old boccia player will carry Canada's flag into Friday's opening ceremony of the Parapan American Games. He reflected Wednesday on a lifetime of scoffing at doctors, and doing things his own way.

"Gordie Howe, he's been a legend for so many years and he played until he was 50," Dispaltro said. "Then you look at people Chris Chelios that played hockey for a long time, Teemu Selanne ... there's still life for us even past 40.

"When you look at most of my competitors, they're in their mid-20s. So for me, it's always a motivating factor that the old guy can still perform, and keep the young wolves at bay."

"Gordie Howe, he's been a legend for so many years and he played until he was 50."
Marco Dispaltro

Josh Dueck, who carried Canada's flag in the closing ceremonies at the 2014 Sochi Paralympics after skiing to gold and silver there, presented the flag to Dispaltro, wrapping it around the boccia player's shoulders.

Dispaltro, a resident of St-Jerome, Que., was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy as a teenager. He took up wheelchair rugby — better known as Murderball — when he was 25, then switched to wheelchair tennis, and because of the degenerative nature of his disability, now plays boccia. He entered the 2015 season ranked No. 1 in the world in his classification.

"The doctors told me 'Marco, your life expectancy is not going to be very long,' but I just scoffed at that," he said. "I did what I wanted to do, I was passionate about it, and I'm going to keep being passionate about sports. Even if I retire, there's a legion of kids out there that want to play sports, and sometimes you don't even know that it exists out there for you."

Dispaltro said it was "happenstance" that brought him to wheelchair sports.

"I got a call, 'Why don't you come out and watch these guys that play a contact sport?'" he said. "I opened the door and I could see on the horizon that these guys were just smashing into each other, and I thought, 'Oh yeah, this is for me.' It was love at first sight for me."

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THEATRE

'Sorrow, but also anger': Director

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

A scene from Lac/Athabasca, a look at the oil industry based around the Lac-Mégantic disaster. CONTRIBUTED

"Ice becomes fire. Men become monsters. Things that were buried become exposed."

It's a gripping description for Lac/Athabasca — a play inspired by the Lac-Mégantic disaster that is headed to Toronto as part of the SummerWorks Performance Festival, which starts Thursday.

While the play tells a fictionalized version of events leading to the 2013 tragedy, it's based on real issues surrounding the oil industry and the Alberta oilsands.

Director and playwright Len Falkenstein is a critic of the industry, which he blames for creating the disaster.

"I was filled with sorrow, but also anger about what happened there," he said, explaining why he wrote the piece. "Overall, what I'm trying to say is: Is it worth it? What we put ourselves through, the cost to the environment, the cost to our society."

Theatre Free Radical, the company that produced Lac/Athabasca, is based in New Brunswick. A lot of people leave that province to seek jobs in the oil industry out West, an important sacrifice also reflected in the piece, Falkenstein said.

The play also attempts to capture the emotional and psychological toll the industry takes on workers.

Lac/Athabasca runs through Aug. 15 at Theatre Passe Muraille at 16 Ryerson Ave.

SummerWorks, also running through Aug. 15, is marking its 25th year, featuring more than 50 performance projects in theatre, art and music.

Public to get sewage alert

ENVIRONMENT

City to issue warning when sending raw waste into lake

The City of Toronto has been told to inform the public when it bypasses water-treatment plants and sends raw sewage into Lake Ontario, and other cities may have to follow suit.

The Ministry of the Environment concluded the public should be told when untreated sewage is sent into the lake after a complaint from the non-profit organization Lake Ontario Waterkeeper under the province's environmental bill of rights.

"I think there's a real demand for this information," said Waterkeeper founder Mark Mattson. "There's a lot of boaters, paddlers and hikers on many of the rivers and trails (near the lake) … and the ability to get the information at their fingertips before they go out would be really user-friendly."

Heavy rains often overwhelm Toronto's old sewer system, forcing the city to bypass water treatment plants and send raw sewage into Lake Ontario, which Waterkeeper said happens about three times a month, year-round. In July 2013, after more than 90 millimetres of rain in just two hours, more than a billion litres of sewage and storm water overflowed onto city streets and cascaded towards the harbour.

"There is no monitoring or information after wet weather as to where sewage or combined sewage and storm water is going into the lake," Mattson said. "It can be a threat to people's health, so that's why it's so important the information be provided."

Ministry of the Environment spokesman Lucas Malinowski said the government is looking at a provincewide approach to provide public reporting by all Ontario municipalities of treatment plant bypasses and overflows. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Federal leaders ready to ramble

Stephen Harper
SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Thomas Mulcair
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Justin Trudeau
FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Elizabeth May
CHAD HIPOLITO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

ELECTION 2015

First debate of federal party leaders takes place tonight

On the eve of the first federal leaders' debate, Canada's campaign trail grew quiet Wednesday as the rivals prepared for their live four-way faceoff.

Two of them, however, sent campaign proxies.

Laureen Harper stepped up to fill her husband's shoes, speaking briefly to party supporters at the campaign office for Conservative Costas Menegakis in the suburban riding of Richmond Hill.

And the NDP offered a new attack ad to fill the campaign void — a collection of doom-and-gloom business-page headlines superimposed over photos of Stephen Harper, denouncing the Tory economic record.

Indeed, the economy is expected to be front and centre during Thursday's debate, the first opportunity for four of the five leaders to go head-to-head on a variety of key issues.

All four participants — Harper, NDP Leader Tom Mulcair, Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau and Green party Leader Elizabeth May — were keeping a low profile Wednesday as they took part in the time-honoured campaign ritual of "debate prep."

Mulcair has been running through debate preparation sessions with his inner circle at a Montreal hotel all week, surfacing only Tuesday to take part in a campaign event in the riding of Mount Royal.

As a former prosecutor whose question-period inquisition of Harper at the height of the Senate scandal was a highlight of his tenure as leader, Mulcair's performance will be under the microscope, observers say.

As is always the case for the prime minister, Harper will surely be the target of most of the attacks — a fact not lost on the Conservative team, said spokesman Kory Teneycke.

But the Tories will have attacks of their own — particularly on matters of experience and leadership.

Teneycke said the prime minister is "quite prepared to defend" the government's economic record, which has been under heavy fire throughout the first few days of the still-young campaign.

Trudeau will exceed expectations "if he comes on stage with his pants on," Teneycke said — a jab to which the Liberals did not respond Wednesday.

Green party Leader Elizabeth May is spending Wednesday on her own in Toronto ahead of the debate. May's officials say she prefers to be left alone to study, rather than participate in mock debates like the other leaders. THE CANADIAN PRESS

See Metro Views for more on debate

TOUGH TALK

Campaign debates always feature a heavy dose of boxing metaphors, so it's hardly surprising that Justin Trudeau, who famously defeated former Conservative senator Patrick Brazeau in a boxing match in 2012 — will visit a boxing gym in Toronto ahead of the event, television cameras in tow.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

P.E.I.

MADD leader resigns

The president of a Prince Edward Island chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving Canada has resigned after being charged with impaired driving, the organization's CEO said Wednesday.

Andrew Murie said David Griffin, who was a police officer for 45 years, was charged with impaired driving in June and immediately resigned as volunteer president of MADD's East Prince County chapter.

Murie said formal charges were laid this week.

He said he was shocked and disappointed, but also has some compassion for Griffin, who he says did great work for the organization during his three years as president.

"He was a great volunteer. He lead that chapter and was engaged with the organization," said Murie in a phone interview from Oakville, Ont. "You couldn't have asked for a more model volunteer."

Murie said in his 18 years as CEO of MADD, he's never dealt with an incident like this. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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METROLINX

Hope resting on teacher's appeal

CHILD ABUSE CASE

Singapore court rules in his favour, Indonesia next

The family of a Canadian teacher imprisoned in Indonesia on much criticized child-abuse convictions is hoping a related ruling from a court in the neighbouring country of Singapore will help his case.

Neil Bantleman is currently serving a 10-year sentence after an Indonesian court found him and a co-worker guilty of abusing children at the elite international school that employed them.

Bantleman's brother said a mother of one of the alleged victims levelled many of her accusations at the start of the case in the form of emails, text messages and other digital communication sent from Singapore.

As a result, Guy Bantleman says his brother, his co-worker and their employer filed a defamation lawsuit against the woman in Singapore.

He says the court found that accusations of sexual abuse levelled by the mother regarding her son could not be proven, found that the mother had defamed the men and the school and ordered the mother to pay a total of nearly 230,000 Singapore dollars ($219,000) in damages.

"The court said there was no evidence to support the allegations of the mother and in reality there were more communications that actually said the mother and child indicated no sort of physical abuse," Bantleman's brother said.

"We hope the courts in Indonesia have taken note of what the courts in Singapore have ruled."

Neil Bantleman's family has called the case against the 46-year-old Burlington, Ont., man a surreal one.

He and a teaching assistant were both working at the Jakarta Intercultural School when they were arrested last July following reports from parents of a six-year-old boy who claimed to have been sodomized. Police had already arrested five janitors who worked at the school on charges of child sexual assault in relation to the case.

Bantleman and the teaching assistant, Ferdinant Tjiong, were then charged with sexually abusing three children at the school, underwent a trial that saw conflicting evidence, and were eventually convicted in April.

Both men maintained their innocence throughout and frequently voiced criticisms about the fairness and transparency of the trial.

Bantleman filed an appeal, which is expected to be ruled on at the end of this month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HALIFAX NATURE'S MOST SPECTACULAR ALARM CLOCK On Wednesday, for the second night in a row, residents in the Halifax area were woken by thunderclaps and lightning bolts. If the humidity persists, Haligonians can expect more thunder and lightning throughout August. COURTESY BRINTON PHOTOGRAPHY

IN BRIEF

Saskatchewan premier says equalization program too rich for hydro provinces

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall is calling for cuts to the federal government's equalization program, which provides $17 billion a year to poorer provinces. Wall says now that a federal election is underway, it's time to discuss options such as cutting the amount in half and using the rest for infrastructure funding or national tax cuts. Wall also says the equalization formula is too rich for hydro-producing provinces such as Quebec and Manitoba.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec duo in fatal crash were en route to a wedding

Authorities are investigating the deaths of two Quebec motorists who were killed in a car crash in Maine. Police say Martin Poulin and Francine Dumas, of Saint-Georges, Que., were found in their car in West Forks Plantation by family members Tuesday afternoon. They say the couple, both 58, were on their way to New Hampshire for a wedding.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Plane debris confirmed

FLIGHT MH370

Malaysian prime minister affirms origin of wreckage

Experts have confirmed that the debris found on Reunion Island last week was that of Malaysia Airlines flight 370 that went missing last year, Malaysia's prime minister said Wednesday.

"It is with a very heavy heart that I must tell you that an international team of experts has conclusively confirmed that the aircraft debris ... is indeed MH370," Prime Minister Najib Razak told reporters.

The Boeing 777 jetliner disappeared on March 8 while on a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing with 239 people on board.

It is believed to have crashed in the Indian Ocean, but the reason remains one of aviation's biggest mysteries.

The first ever physical evidence of the aircraft was found on the French territory of Reunion Island in the Indian ocean, thousands of kilometres from the site near Australia where the plane is believed to have gone down.

"We now have physical evidence that, as I announced on 24th March last year, flight MH370 tragically ended in the southern Indian Ocean," Najib said.

Intact and encrusted with barnacles, the metal piece was sent to France for scrutiny by the French civil aviation investigation department known by its acronym BEA, and members from its Malaysian and Australian counterparts.

Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak at a special press conference announcing the findings for the ill-fated flight MH370 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, early Thursday.
VINCENT THIAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

239

The number of people who were aboard Malaysia Airlines flight 370 when it disappeared.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **"It is my hope that this confirmation ... will at least bring certainty to the families and loved ones.**
> Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak

In a statement, Malaysia Airlines said the part of the plane's wing, known as a "flaperon," which was found on Reunion Island on July 29 had been confirmed to be of Flight 370.

"Family members of passengers and crew have already been informed and we extend our deepest sympathies to those affected," it said.

The statement said this "is indeed a major breakthrough for us in resolving the disappearance of MH370. We expect and hope that there would be more objects to be found which would be able to help resolve this mystery."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RELIGION

Divorced Catholics get olive branch

Pope Francis' call Wednesday for a church of "open doors" that welcomes divorced Catholics prompted speculation over whether he was signalling support for easing the ban on Communion for couples who remarry without a church annulment.

The issue is at the centre of an extraordinarily public debate among cardinals from around the world who will gather this October at the Vatican for a synod, or meeting, on the family, where treatment of such couples will be a key topic.

"He wants the church to get over a psychology that if you're divorced and remarried that you're a lesser Catholic," said Phillip Thompson, executive director of the Aquinas Center of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta. "But it doesn't address the real issue of what is the path forward for Catholics who want to enter into full communion with the church."

Under Catholic teaching, unless a marriage is annulled, or declared null and void by a church tribunal, those who remarry cannot receive Communion or other sacraments because they are essentially living in sin and committing adultery. Such annulments can take years to process — if they are granted at all — a problem that has left generations of Catholics feeling shunned by their church.

Catholics who divorce after a church marriage, but don't remarry, can receive Communion.

The pope, speaking at his weekly general audience at the Vatican, underscored Catholic teaching on divorced Catholics who remarry without an annulment, saying, "the church knows well that such a situation contradicts the Christian sacrament." But he emphasized, "these people are not at all excommunicated."

"They always belong to the church," Francis said. The church, he said, must be one of "open doors."

Opponents see a danger to this approach and warn it will undermine church teaching overall on marriage.
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IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL

Deal critics 'selling a fantasy': Obama

President Barack Obama assailed critics of his Iran nuclear deal Wednesday as "selling a fantasy" to the American people, warning Congress that blocking the accord would damage the nation's credibility and increase the likelihood of more war in the Middle East.

Besides challenging opponents at home, Obama cast Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as an isolated international opponent of the historic accord, saying, "I do not doubt his sincerity, but I believe he is wrong."

The agreement would require Iran to dismantle most of its nuclear program for at least a decade in exchange for billions of dollars in relief from international sanctions. But Netanyahu and some critics in the U.S. argue that it would not stop Iran from building a bomb.

The president's blunt remarks, in an hour-long address at American University, were part of an intense lobbying campaign by the White House ahead of Congress' vote next month to either approve or disapprove the international agreement. Opponents of the agreement have streamed to Capitol Hill, too, to make their case, and they have spent tens of millions of dollars on advertisements.

Obama's diplomatic overtures to Iran, a centrepiece of his foreign policy agenda, have put him at odds with Republicans and some Democrats, as well as with Netanyahu, who has campaigned vigorously against the deal.

Netanyahu and U.S. critics of the Iran deal say Obama is presenting a false choice between accepting the deal at hand and going to war to stop Iran from building a bomb.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

U.S. government offers $5 million for 'El Chapo'
The U.S. government on Wednesday announced a $5 million reward for information leading to the recapture of one of the world's most wanted drug kingpins, Joaquin (El Chapo) Guzman of Mexico.

The reward is being offered by the State Department while the Drug Enforcement Administration has set up a tip line for information about Guzman, who escaped from one of Mexico's most secure prisons last month via a sophisticated mile-long tunnel that opened up in his cell's shower.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Automakers struggle to keep hackers out of cars

TECHNOLOGY

Vehicles now have more software than a Boeing 787

When researchers at two West Coast universities took control of a General Motors car through cellular and Bluetooth connections in 2010, they startled the auto industry by exposing a glaring security gap.

Five years later, two friendly hackers sitting on a living room couch used a laptop computer to commandeer a Jeep from afar over the Internet, demonstrating an even scarier vulnerability.

"Cars don't seem to be any more secure than when the university guys did it," says Charlie Miller, a security expert at Twitter who, along with well-known hacker and security consultant Chris Valasek, engineered the attack on the Jeep Cherokee.

Fiat Chrysler, the maker of Jeeps, is now conducting the first recall to patch a cybersecurity problem, covering 1.4 million Jeeps. And experts and lawmakers are warning the auto industry and regulators to move faster to plug holes created by the dozens of new computers and the growing number of Internet connections in today's automobiles.

The average new car has 40 to 50 computers that run 20 million lines of software code, more than a Boeing 787, a recent KPMG study found.

After the 2010 hack, the auto industry plugged access holes and tried to isolate entertainment and driver information systems from critical functions such as steering and brakes. But in each subsequent model year, it added microchips and essentially turned cars into rolling computers. The introduction of Internet access has created new vulnerabilities.

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles says it has a software fix to prevent hacking into the Jeep Cherokee and other vehicles through the Uconnect infotainment system. COURTESY FIAT CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Security experts say automakers should have systems that recognize rogue commands and stop them from taking control of a car. Some already do. They also say car companies must behave more like the personal computer industry, instantaneously updating software via the Internet to stay ahead in a perpetual cat-and-mouse game. Tesla and BMW already can do this, and nearly all automakers are planning for it.

> **Cars don't seem to be any more secure.**
> Charlie Miller, security expert at Twitter

Even so, experts say it's nearly impossible to stop all cyberattacks, as the U.S. government and major retailers have discovered.

"It's the same thing you see in any industry: You do more and someone finds a way around it," says Bryant Walker Smith, a law professor at the University of South Carolina.

In the 2010 incident, the hackers worked near the car. In the recent Jeep attack, Miller and Valasek used a laptop in Pittsburgh to control the vehicle in St. Louis.

They used the Cherokee's cellular connection to access its radio. From there, they penetrated the vehicle's controls, changing its speed and taking over the brakes and the transmission.

Just last week, another hacker revealed that he placed a small electronic box on a car to steal information from GM's OnStar system so he could open doors and start the vehicle. GM said the hack was isolated to one car and it has closed the loopholes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRADE

Demand grows for goods

Canada's merchandise trade deficit with the rest of the world shrank in June to a surprisingly low $476 million, as exports surged in a range of sectors, including consumer goods and major resource commodities.

The trade deficit was far less than the $3.4 billion gap in May, according to Statistics Canada figures released Wednesday, and below an estimated deficit of $2.8 billion, according to Thomson Reuters.

Although the improvement was helped by a slight decline in imports, economists said the main driver for June's outperformance was strong demand for Canadian goods.

"In volumes terms, exports regained all the ground lost over the last six months," TD economist Diana Petramala wrote in a commentary.

She said Canada's trade performance is now expected to contribute positively to Canadian second-quarter growth.

But other factors including a drop in business investment is likely to "swamp the more positive trade story overall, leaving real GDP on track for a modest second consecutive quarterly decline," she added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

market minute

DOLLAR	75.83¢ (-0.04¢)
TSX	14,502.99 (+11.94)
OIL	$45.15 US (-59¢)
GOLD	$1,085.60 US (-$5.10)

NATURAL GAS: $2.798 US (-1.4¢)
DOW JONES: 17,540.47 (-10.22)

IN BRIEF

More film points needed
Cineplex is raising the number of Scene loyalty program points needed for free premium movie tickets starting on Nov. 4 to 1,500 for screenings in 3D or seats inside an UltraAVX or Imax theatre, and 2,000 for the adults-only VIP cinemas. Cineplex is also increasing the points customers receive for more expensive tickets. Scene will now give 150 points for a premium-priced ticket and 200 points for a VIP ticket.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

Weaker loonie hits Indigo's profit

A weaker Canadian dollar left a mark on the bottom line of Indigo Books & Music Inc. in the latest quarter.

The company's chief financial officer Laura Carr says the company took a $3 million hit on its bottom line during the first quarter ended June 27, a direct impact from the exchange rate with the U.S. dollar. The details were disclosed in a conference call with analysts on Wednesday after Indigo reported its financial results a day earlier.

Carr said Indigo managed to absorb the effect of the exchange rate by funnelling the costs into its book and merchandise prices and securing better agreements with its suppliers by increasing the volume of its orders.

Book and magazine prices are often a hot topic when currency exchange rates dramatically fluctuate, partly because it's one of the few retail goods that lists how much they cost in each currency on the same product. When the value of the loonie soared to near par with the American dollar several years ago, some consumers complained they were paying excessive markups on books when factoring in the better exchange rate.

Eventually, publishers and retailers made changes to factor in at least some of the improved currency rates.

However, as the loonie sits around 76 cents U.S., retailers are facing the challenge of recouping lost profit margins.

Indigo Books & Music operates 90 large format stores under the Chapters and Indigo banners, as well as 126 smaller locations like Coles, Indigospirit and SmithBooks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, August 6, 2015

metro's election explainer

The more debates the merrier?

So you're used to setting your PVR for just one evening's worth of politicians throwing shade at each other — either the English or French "consortium" debate, produced jointly by Canada's major networks (CBC, CTV, Global). This year, you'll need to do more planning. There are four confirmed alternative debates, the first of which, presented by Rogers and Maclean's magazine, runs tonight. Is this about widening the dialogue or subdividing the electorate? Read on.

1. HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
The Tories said they wouldn't participate in the traditional debates. Their only explanation was to suggest they were embracing "diversity and innovation." But some contend the party is trying to strategically parse and target blocks of voters. It's also worth pointing out that the Tories feuded with the big broadcasters last year over political ads and that their relationship with the CBC, whose funding they've gutted, is fraught to say the least.

2. WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
- NDP Leader Tom Mulcair has said he won't debate without the big honcho himself.
- Justin Trudeau has so far confirmed only that he'll attend tonight's Maclean's/Rogers debate and another, presented by the Globe and Mail and Google, next month.
- The alternative debates were subject to Tory approval, so the terms are bound to be favourable to Harper. Consider: one of the debates is devoted to the economy, another to foreign policy — subjects the leader is comfortable with.
- The main thing the consortium could offer was eyeballs: over 10 million viewers tuned in to the English debate in 2011. And the partners had planned to pump up the numbers this time through an array of social-media partnerships, meant to yield "unprecedented digital reach." But Harper's opt-out and Mulcair's hard line threaten to render the whole exercise moot.

The election explainer is dedicated to keeping urban Canadians informed ahead of the Oct. 19 vote. Look for it in this space throughout the campaign. Let us know what needs explaining: readers@metronews.ca

URBAN ETIQUETTE: ELLEN VANSTONE ON BELATED SYMPATHY

THE QUESTION

I just found out that my friend's mother died a few weeks ago but he never said anything. Should I send a card? Or is it more tactful to say nothing?

Dear Ellen,
I just found out that my friend's mother died a few weeks ago, but he never said anything, so I don't know whether to mention it or not. Should I say something, or send a card? Except now it seems too late, and anyways I don't know his postal code. So maybe I could send an email, but maybe that's too casual? Or is it more tactful to say nothing and respect his privacy?
Trying to be sympathetic

Dear Trying,
Sometimes people think it's "tactful to say nothing" when what they really mean is "it's way easier for me to ignore this difficult subject by pretending to be tactful."
I don't include you in this category. You seem genuinely ready to do whatever the right thing is. But I have made the mistake of "pretending to be tactful," and I still regret it. A friendly acquaintance at college lost her fiancé just weeks before the wedding, and a bunch of us in her extended circle ignored the entire event, thinking (or pretending) we didn't want to remind her of the painful loss. As if she needed reminding!
Some time later, when my father died, I received a belated sympathy card from a friendly acquaintance in my own extended circle, and I can't tell you how much it meant to me. I felt so touched. That card, even though it came from someone who never knew my father, made me feel as if someone else was honouring him and his life by acknowledging the loss.
So many of us in this culture are afraid to talk about death, but when people ignore it, there's a kind of message to the bereaved person that the loss is somehow an embarrassing subject. Which, obviously, is bound to make that person feel worse.
So, the answer is: always send a card, no matter how many weeks have gone by. It's not only the "right thing to do" as a matter of etiquette. What makes it "right" is that it's a kind and considerate act. It's about setting aside your own discomfort and convenience and sending a message that will tell your friend you're thinking of him with love and sympathy. It's these small acts — the ones that are easiest to ignore or forget — that help connect people and make the world a better place.
As for not knowing your friend's postal code, I could ask if you've ever heard of the Internet. But I'll rein in my scoldy tone and tell you that email is just fine — especially if you're too young to have a drawerful of stamps handy.

Need advice? Email Ellen
scene@metronews.ca

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Is equality in 'thermal comfort' really our greatest concern?

Get a sweater.
No, really.
Leave your office building, walk to the nearest Joe Fresh, drop $10 on a crew neck, come back to work and stop whining.
The most boring story of the summer (the season of boring stories) arrived this week, wrapped in a handy coating of sexism, and took off.
You couldn't pass newsstands or hang on Twitter without bombardment by a shocking truth: office air conditioning is designed for ... men!
Researchers found thermostats are set to please the average 40-year-old man in the 1960s, while women, who like it hotter, are left to shiver.
The Internet ate it up. Editors put it on the front page. People (probably none more than women in offices) nattered.
But if I have to glance at one more outrage-feigning headline, I will curse every complainer to a life in a deep freeze, right between the hanging pig and leg of lamb.
Some people thought we made too much of poor Cecil the lion. But that was about one man's erectile dysfunction, if you believe Jimmy Kimmel, and most definitely about life and death — of a species, no less, and arguably an ecosystem.
Over here in office land, the stakes are piddly.
Offices should "reduce gender-discriminating bias in thermal comfort predictions," declared the researchers.
"Equal thermal comfort for all!" doesn't quite have the ring of "Save the lions!" but such is office life.
Or such is the state of feminism.
Instead of crying foul over Fahrenheit, we might have paused to debate a new study that found 95 per cent of women do not regret getting an abortion, after surveying 670 women from a variety of social backgrounds over three years. There's also the small matter of our early start in sexism, as evidenced by new research showing girls are more likely to trust their student council if it's run by boys.
I don't really care if you're cold. It's not a wider problem if you can fix it all by yourself for the price of a quinoa lunch box (and if you can't afford that, the issue we should be talking about is income inequality and pay equity). Surely there's room for an extra layer in that giant purse you lug to work every day.
We're not supposed to silence each other, I know. We women shouldn't ask each other to change.
But please, do get changed — into a parka if you must — and find something better to get you hot and bothered.

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Your essential daily news

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Your essential daily news

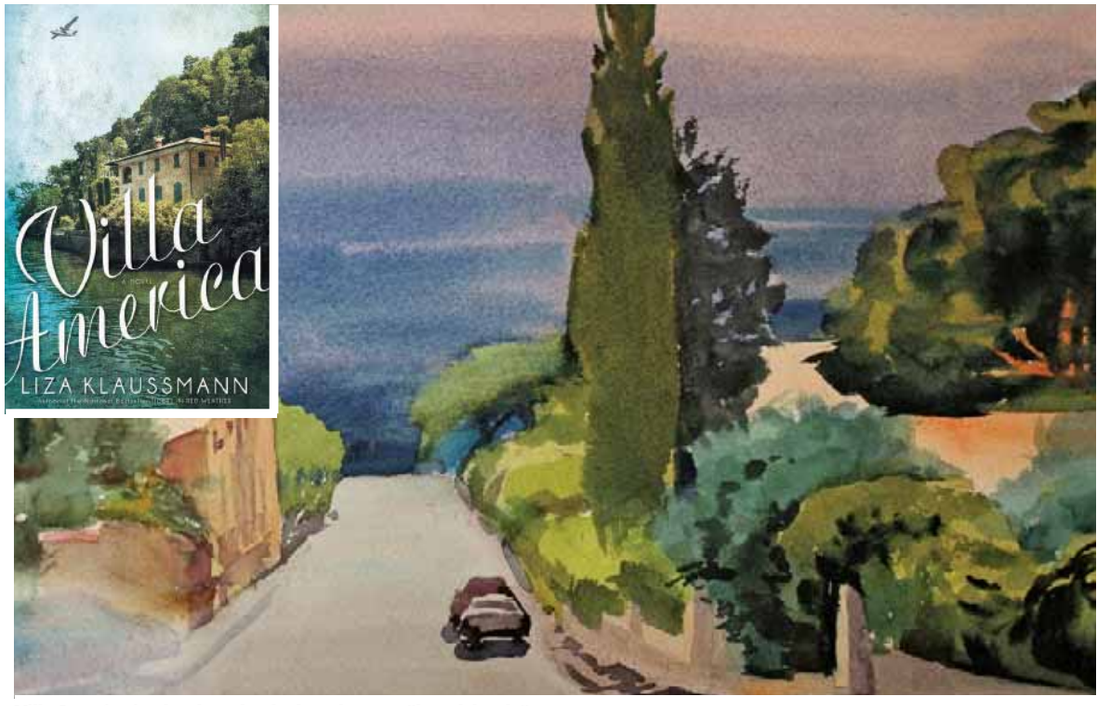
This Weeknd: Lana Del Ray to make an appearance on R&B singer's new album

Don't call it a beach book

VILLA AMERICA

This is not one of those turn-off-your-brain summer reads

Melissa Dunne
For Metro | Life



Villa America is a book set by the beach, not a "beach book." ISTOCK

So how does Liza Klaussmann *really* feel about her new book Villa America recently being called "this summer's classiest beach read" by one of Britain's classiest newspapers?

"Yeah, sure why not? The word classy is in there — that's always a good thing," Klaussmann tells me over the phone while on vacation at Martha's Vineyard, literally surrounded by beaches.

"I've always found the terminology a bit odd. ... You can read anything on the beach."

The author is diplomatic about the categorization. When a book set in the French Riviera comes out during the dog days of summer it's perhaps inevitable, she points out, that there will be talk of stuffing it in your beach bag and getting sunscreen smudges on it and sand granules in it while flipping through the pages by the water.

But, one does understand why some authors (and readers) may cringe when the term beach read is mentioned.

After all, even today.com back in 2005 was dissing the category in a roundup of the sub-genre: "The beach book is easily digestible, designed to be guzzled down from a cramped airline seat or reclining poolside chair. ... They're not the novels you proudly display on your shelves so that guests may marvel at your intellectual prowess, but frankly, it's too hot out for Tolstoy."

Oh, and beach books also tend to be chick-lit — you know, those books with the neon-pink covers. Before the listicle of 'beach books' is listed this exhortation adds insult to injury: "Let the mental vacation begin!" Barf.

I've always found the terminology a bit odd ... You can read anything on the beach.
Liza Klaussmann

If you're looking for a mental vacation this summer, Villa America is not the 'beach book' for you. While her second novel, like her first, does take place near the beach, I'd certainly say it's more classy than trashy.

But enough about the sometimes nauseating way books are labelled and categorized.

Klaussmann burst onto the literary scene with Tigers in Red Weather, her award-winning debut set on Martha's Vineyard (where Klaussmann usually spends her summers) which became an international bestseller.

Her sophomore effort takes readers to another gorgeous beach locale — this time the French Riviera — and the characters are modelled after the real-life muses of F. Scott Fitzgerald's Tender is The Night.

The initial idea for Villa America came many moons ago when she was working on her master's thesis on the Fitzgerald classic. Gerald and Sara Murphy, the couple that inspired Fitzgerald's book, also inspired Klaussmann.

"I kind of fell in love with them," says the author.

The resulting work is something many readers are sure to fall in love with, too.

This is one 'beach book' you can proudly display on your shelf, perhaps sandwiched between a dog-eared Helen Fielding book and a pristine Tolstoy novel.

What could be classier than that?

INHERITANCE

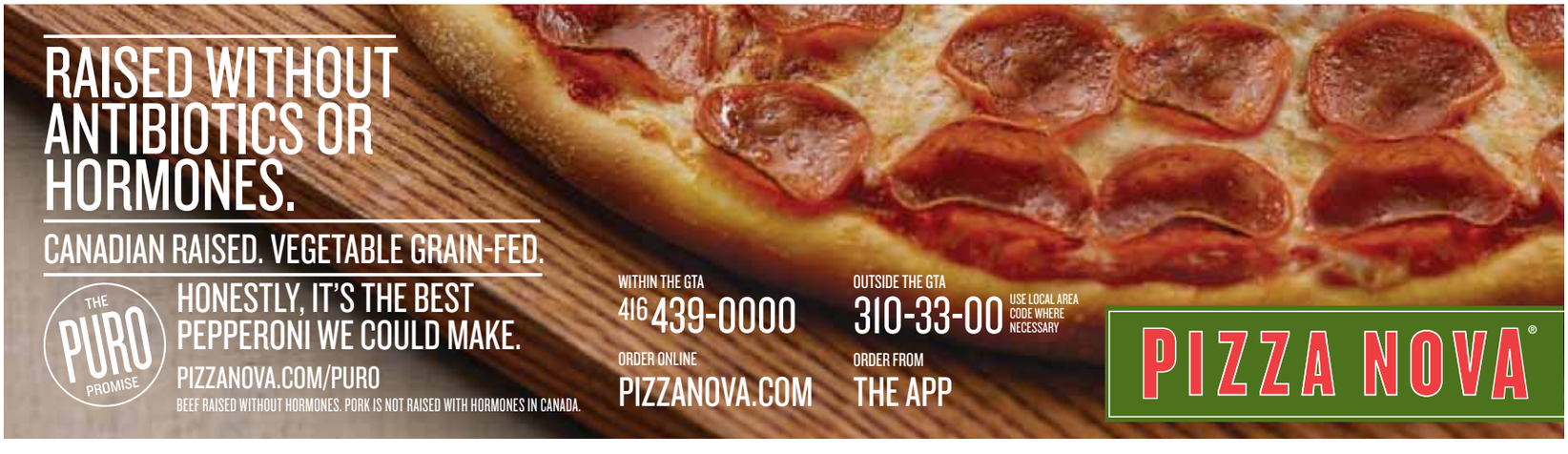
A whale of a tale

Liza Klaussmann is not a complainer. After all, things are going very well for her right now. Her first novel won her awards and accolades and her second novel Villa America has just been published. But, she does have a whale-sized reason to complain.

Herman Melville happens to be her great-great-great grandfather and people happen to ask her about the writer of the classic novel Moby Dick ALL the time.

Instead of complaining about being asked about, and compared to, someone she never met, she's decided to deal with her famous relative "head on."

She is already at work on her third novel and it will reference her long-gone family member.



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Shy Little Kitten bedding is based on a Little Golden Books story. LAND OF NOD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kidlit decor is the cat's meow

A ROOM OF A KID'S OWN

Turn down the covers with a page from storybooks

Using children's books as inspiration for bedrooms and playrooms is one way to introduce a child to literature. It also can be just a fun, imaginative way to decorate.

"I lifted the oranges, greens and yellows from the pages of The Wind in the Willows, Charlotte's Web and The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, and used those colours in the fabrics, wall colour" and furniture of a child's room, says Sheilah Michaels, an interior designer in Crozet, Va., who designed the room for the Charlottesville Design House a few years ago. She used the classic kids' books as her jumping-off point.

The response was overwhelmingly positive, she says.

"My heart was in (it), as I was an avid reader growing up and my grandparents had a book business," Michaels says.

She also channelled Beatrix Potter, using watercolour artwork, a tea set, a hand-painted dresser, and a lamp with flower and garden motifs reminiscent of Mr. McGregor's garden from The Tale of Peter Rabbit.

Many designers and retailers, from bookstores to home-decorating stores, have picked up on the theme of children's literature as decor inspiration. (Pottery Barn Kids stocks Peter Rabbit-themed bedding, for example.)

The work of authors and illustrators such as James Gurney, Jan Brett, Frances Hodgson Burnett, Dr. Seuss, Shel Silverstein, Steven Kellogg and many more is also available online in unframed, downloadable or ready-to-hang art. Check websites like Etsy, Art.com, Zazzle and Books of Wonder.

SQUARE INCH DESIGN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Minimalist Goldlocks

For a contemporary space, consider Chicago artist Christian Jackson's minimalist versions of classic fairy tales: Little Red Riding Hood is evoked by a copse of trees and a flash of red cape; the Goldilocks print shows three bowls of oatmeal, each a different size; Three Little Pigs consists of a sprig of straw, a twig and a brick. While each is rendered in muted hues, the spare imagery packs graphic punch. (squareinchdesign.com)

Cynthia Mehlberg, a designer in Gillette, Wyo., crafts canvas pillows with quotes from Peter Pan, Hans Christian Andersen and others. (etsy.com/shop/sweetmeadowdesigns)

"To quote famous classic children's literature keeps those words alive, introducing them to a whole new generation," she says. "And knowing that those words may inspire a child makes my heart sing."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAWNY SCRAWNY LION AROUND IN BED

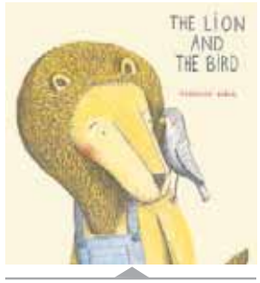
Little Golden Books get snuggly. Land of Nod partnered with Little Golden Books this spring to produce a bed and bath collection featuring several of the series' beloved characters, including Tawny Scrawny Lion. The illustrations have been reproduced on a range of soft furnishings and wall art. (landofnod.com)

SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 22 SHOPPERS DRUG MART

LUIS ROBAYO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Loving lions

The killing of Cecil the lion continues to generate fury, but it can also be a teaching moment. These lion-themed kids books might help. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



FRIENDSHIP

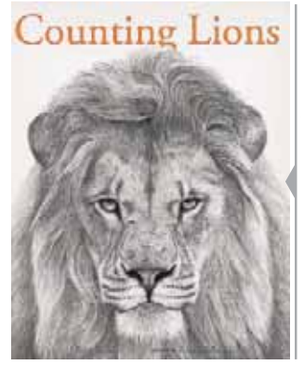
The Lion & The Bird

A sweet look at friendship formed when a lion finds an injured bird in his garden one autumn day. The bird is left behind by his flock and the lion nurses the bird back to health, only to have him rejoin his flock the following year. Enchanted Lion Books.

RECIPROCITY

The Lion & The Mouse

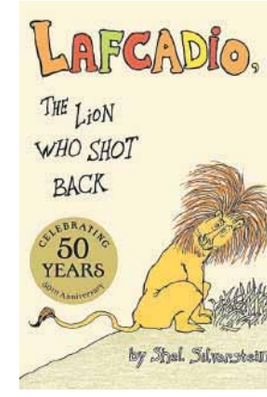
The Serengeti comes alive in Jerry Pinkney's nearly wordless retelling of the beloved Aesop fable. The lion spares the mouse from becoming a meal. The mouse returns the deed by freeing the lion from a poacher's trap. Closeups of the players are juxtaposed with vast landscapes. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.



CONSERVATION

Counting Lions

Charcoal drawings of 10 endangered animals in an oversize format, with a majestic lion as the cover boy. In addition to simple counting on a level worthy of very young children, text covers the qualities and behaviour of each animal, including elephants, giraffes, pandas, turtles and macaws. Creators Katie Cotton and Stephen Walton urge children to care about protection and preservation. October release, Candlewick.



BECOMING WHAT WE HATE

Lafcadio, The Lion Who Shot Back

In Shel Silverstein's first children's book, a lion eats a hunter, taking his gun and becoming a crack shot himself. A circus man names him Lafcadio the Great and brings him to New York, where the lion grows more humanlike, dressing in starched collars and fancy suits. He grows despondent and returns to the jungle to ponder whether he's more man or beast. Anniversary edition, HarperCollins.

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APOTEX ADVANCING GENERICS

Filipino lives get the spotlight

SHORT FICTION

Author draws on her own experience in the diaspora

BOOKWORM
Sue Carter

It's such a familiar story. When Mia Alvar was a student, first at Harvard College and then at Columbia University, with aspirations of becoming a writer, she had to dig to find English-language fiction by other Filipino authors — despite the fact that there's a long, recognized literary tradition dating back to the 19th century.

"They weren't names that appeared on my syllabi, or the featured table at the bookstore," Alvar says.

New York-based Alvar can now count herself among a new generation of authors from the Filipino diaspora who are being recognized outside the community for their literary talents, including Montreal's own Miguel Syjuco, who won the 2008 Man Asian Literary Prize for his debut novel Ilustrado.

Alvar's first story collection, In the Country, published by Knopf, was released this summer to great critical praise with comparisons to one of the indisputable all-time masters of the form, Alice Munro.

In nine stories, including a novella, Alvar travels to the Philippines, the Middle East and the United States, and into the private lives of various Filipino communities and families.

But while there's an underlying sense of displacement and outsider anxiety familiar in many immigrant stories, Alvar's tales twist and surprise.

There's sweet revenge: in Shadow Families, a woman named Baby, whose every move and wardrobe choice is judged by the other Filipino women, busts apart an expat community with a sly confession.

But there's also slow-growing empathy in The Miracle Worker, in which the wife of an oil worker becomes a caregiver for a young special-needs girl whose mother desperately dreams of a bright future for her child.

I borrowed a lot from memory and personal experience and changed a lot on the page.
Mia Alvar, author of In the Country

Alvar's family left Manila when she was six, first moving to Bahrain for four years before settling in New York.

While the stories may have gestated from her family's experiences, once she started writing, Alvar found they took a life of their own.

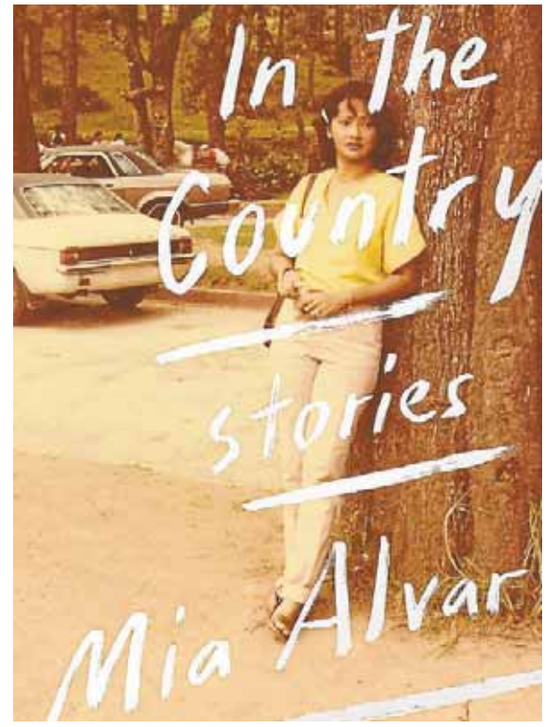
"I borrowed a lot from memory and personal experience and changed a lot on the page," she says.

"There are moments where I know I can trace the original spark or inspiration, but by the time the story has made it out into the world, so much has changed."

She admits that when she first began the collection, she felt the pressure of trying to represent an entire culture.

"I had to work out a philosophy for myself, as I noticed that I would get most stuck and frustrated and bored whenever I was too obsessed with getting it right, whether it was fact-checking the distance between two towns on the map or trying to transcribe a memory from real life as it happened," she says.

Alvar felt the most pressure while writing the titular novella. For those whose knowledge of Filipino history stops at Imelda Marcos' shoe habit, In the Country is a heartbreaking insight into living under a dictatorship through the eyes of a couple caught in the political corruption.



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Stars take to storytelling

Matthew McConaughey is lending his voice to the audiobook version of White Man's Problems. FRANCK ROBICHON/GETTY FILEW

AUDIOBOOK

Celebrities lend voices to friend's short story project

Matthew McConaughey isn't just encouraging people to read his friend's book. He's also raising his voice.

The Oscar-winner is one of several celebrities to narrate Kevin Morris' audiobook version of White Man's Problems from Audible Inc. It's a series of short stories centred on men of various ages uneasily trying to figure out life's conundrums.

"Kevin's been a friend and consigliere of mine for over 20 years," McConaughey wrote in an email message. "I've always enjoyed his outlook and authenticities of where he's from and wants to go."

McConaughey narrates the first short story, the 18-minute Summer Farmer, which is about the brief meeting of a wealthy man and an elevator repairman. It was inspired by John Cheever's The Summer Farmer and

is being released by Audible free on Aug. 4. The full audiobook is available on Aug. 11.

White Man's Problems will also have stories read by South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone, John C. McGinley, Josh Holloway, Pete Yorn, Minnie Driver and Sarah Polley.

All are either clients or friends of Morris, an entertainment attorney who also co-produced The Book of Mormon.

Morris narrates the last story White Man's Problems, which features "the biggest jerk you've ever seen. So I knew I'd probably save him for me and not make anybody else go through it," he said.

"It feels like we made an album. It feels like I made an album with my friends. It feels like I made another piece of art out of something I put a tremendous amount of hard work into," Morris added.

McConaughey , the actor of such films as Dallas Buyers Club and Interstellar, said it wasn't such a stretch to become a narrator.

"Storytelling's what I do for a living as an actor and just like an actor, if the script's good, I don't have to do as much 'acting' per se," he wrote. "Kevin's stories have clear identities and sense of place."

Morris began writing five years ago in an apartment he converted into an office in Santa Monica, Calif. He wrote three days a week, inspired to write nine short stories by J. D. Salinger's Nine Stories.

The fourth story soon grew long enough to be a novel — "I learned firsthand the difference between a novel and a short story," Morris said — but he was unable to get anyone to publish it.

So he returned to the short stories and published it himself on Amazon. A friend's drawing of a dog adorns the cover.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILLENNIUM TRILOGY

Author: 'I was born for this'

The Swedish author tasked with writing the upcoming sequel to the late Stieg Larsson's best-selling Millennium trilogy said Sunday that he was "born for" the job.

David Lagercrantz, commissioned to extend the dark crime series that sold more than 80 million copies worldwide, wrote in the Dagens Nyheter newspaper that he lived "day and night" with Larsson's characters. His novel, titled The Girl in the Spider's Web for its English-language release, will be published in 40 countries on Aug. 27, a decade after Larsson's death."I was born for this. Nobody could do it any better," Lagercrantz wrote.

Although the book's production was shrouded in secrecy, the project has not been without criticism, particularly from Larsson's partner who accused it of simply being a money-spinner.

But in Sunday's article, written in the form of a diary over the 18 months he took to write the book, Lagercrantz said that "the plot blossomed in me" every day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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GOSSIP NOTES

Perrie's Zayn zen

In the wake of Zayn "I love to leave things" Malik's split from fiancée Perrie Edwards coming to light earlier this week, the Little Mix singer was said to be "devastated," but according to Edwards herself everything is great, just great. "I'm good, thank you," she said when pressed in an interview for an update. So there you have it. "Her friends are rallying around her," a source previously told E! News.

NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

No 007 for Idris

Maxim's feature on Elba is a double-edge sword of eye candy and confirmation that the actor won't be ordering a martini "shaken, not stirred" anytime soon. "It's just not happening," Maxim writes. "Fans have not been shy about their desire to see the producers slide the Aston Martin keys across the bar to Elba. But in the actor's estimation, this very attention has all but killed his chances to land the role."

MATT LEE/METRO IN NEW YORK

FROM HGTV TO THE WHITE HOUSE

Hillz spills TV faves

As she's doing her run for president, Hillary Clinton has to field a lot questions. In a recent chat with South Carolina Democratic Party Chairman Jamie Harrison, the former first lady and secretary of state opens up about her favourite TV shows, and the answers are, um, telling. Clinton revealed she's a huge fan of Tea Leoni's Madam Secretary — so she's the one — about a female secretary of state. Maybe she likes shows she can relate to? Because she's also a huge fan of The Good Wife, which started out about a high-powered woman overcoming her politician husband's sex scandal. This is very, very awkward.

But don't worry, Clinton has found the secret to relatability, and it is HGTV.

"I love watching people redecorating their houses, buying houses," she says.

"There's a program called Love It or List It. I like to watch Beachfront Bargain (Hunt) and I'm interested in this young couple that flip houses (Flip or Flop), whether they're going to make their money or not."

NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

WILL AND JADA

Smiths call it quits

While Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith laugh off those pesky divorce rumors that keep cropping up, they're reportedly dealing with a completely different breakup in their lives, and it's with the Church of Scientology. Tax records obtained by Radar Online show that the Smith's Will Smith Foundation was issued a $1.2-million refund in 2013 for cash that had been donated to a suspiciously Scientologist-friendly school. A former Church leader insists the refund comes because the Smiths are no longer members of the controversial religious organization. If that's the case, the Smiths are the rare exception of people who've actually gotten Scientology to give them money. Impressive.

NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

From the left: Viola Davis, Kerry Washington, Shonda Rhimes and Ellen Pompeo at the 2015 Summer TCA Tour. GETTY IMAGES

Shonda queen of the non-answer answer

TV CRITICS PRESS TOUR

Talk of legacies not producer's fave topic

Lisa Weidenfeld
For Metro

Shonda Rhimes may have made her name with her writing, but for a pro wordsmith, she's awfully short on them when a room full of journalists tries to get her to answer certain types of questions. Like, for instance, what's going to happen next on any of her Shondaland shows.

"We don't comment on future storylines," Rhimes told the room Tuesday at the Television Critics Association press tour.

But how does Rhimes feel about the whole TGIT branding thing ABC went with for the night of all her shows? Was she feeling any pressure in that situation? "You know what's great is that I absolutely don't worry about things that I have no control over," Rhimes said. "My job at ABC is to make shows and tell stories, so that is what I spend my time doing."

Rhimes reserved her strongest non-answers for questions regarding her legacy as a person who's gotten more people of colour on TV than possibly any other producer. "I certainly don't spend any time thinking about legacy, because we're still doing this," she said.

When pressed about the concept that she might have something to do with the fact that it seems pretty likely that a woman of colour will win a best actress award at the Emmys for the first time (both Viola Davis and Taraji P. Henson are nominated), she said, "It is a lovely thing that you are saying, but I'm not going to answer that."

Earlier, ABC president Paul Lee had implied that he thought Grey's Anatomy could go on for many more seasons. And what does Rhimes have to say about that? "I agree with everything that Paul Lee says."

Glad we could clear all that up.

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Making the grade

There is a large learning curve for teenagers as they prepare to enter high school. SHUTTERSTOCK

TRANSITIONS

Ease your teenager's anxiety for the first year of high school

Izabela Szydlo
For Metro

With school just a few weeks away, the transition jitters for soon-to-be first-year high school students may be setting in. And while being nervous about change is completely normal, there are ways to reduce your teenager's anxiety.

"New teachers, new friends, new classrooms, new curriculum, new expectations — all these new things can lead to excess stress," said Brent Schieve, a Surrey, B.C., high school teacher who has been teaching for 20 years.

"If they can deal with some of this newness before school starts, that would help."

Begin your teen's transition by introducing academics slowly while summer vacation is still in full swing, Schieve said.

"There is a huge learning curve for any changes in schools. And high school is still based heavily on reading and math. So any literacy and numeracy activities will help greatly. Try games and reading together as a starting point."

Demystifying the high school environment by physically going to your child's high school and taking a look around will also be helpful, Schieve said. Many schools are open in the summer, especially the week before school starts, so accessibility shouldn't be an issue.

And while the academic transition can be daunting, so can the social one. According to one study published in the Journal of School Psychology in 2004, teens between the ages of eight and 13 see their self-esteem levels drop markedly. Addressing self-esteem and social insecurities before the first day of school may help to reduce them, Schieve said.

"Listen to your kids and be empathetic. For example, explain that they might be intimidated by older students, but (older students) are just bigger versions of themselves who have more experiences."

The Grade 11 and 12 teacher says students typically adjust to high school by their second semester, but you should be on the lookout for significant changes in personality or the amount of communication. And if you become concerned, speak to a school counsellor.

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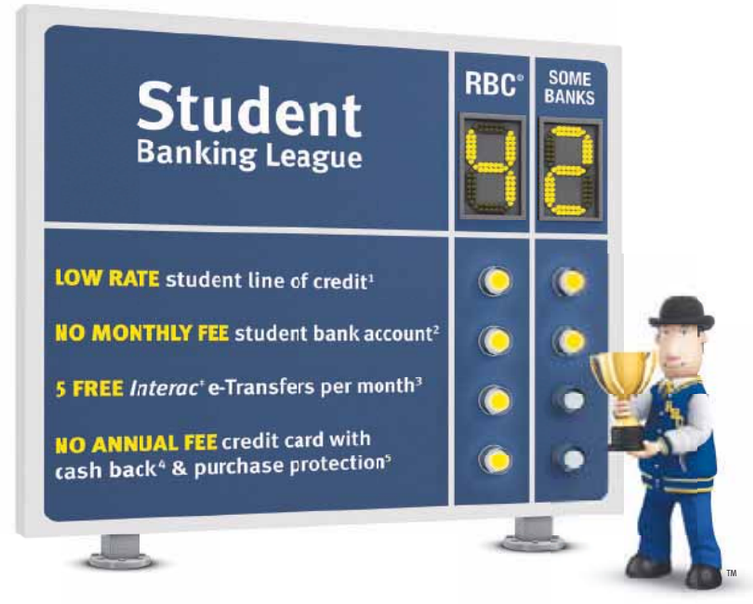
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Your essential daily news

West Elm has plucked from a pool of works by indie designers for its new line of framed wall prints

Builders seeing the big picture

DEVELOPMENTS

Master-planned communities now common to many cities across Canada

CONDO TRENDS

Duncan McAllister

General George S. Patton once said that a good plan today is better than a perfect plan tomorrow. We all know that planning is an essential aspect of real estate and urban development. It would seem that we're living in the era of the master-planned community. We hear the term a lot, but what does it mean exactly?

BusinessDictionary.com describes it as a type of residential plan, the scope of which is very large, and includes a number of amenities such as parks, golf courses, bike paths and jogging trails.

Closer to the city, it's a large community, built in phases by one or more builders, which encompasses elements of live, work and play. That may include condos, townhomes, office buildings, shopping centres and parks. The building form is now common to most Canadian cities.

On the West Coast, there's a new master-planned community just outside of Vancouver in the Fremont neighbourhood of Port Coquitlam. The Fremont Riverfront District by developer Mosaic Homes comprises condos, townhomes and commercial units in a true live-work-play community. The modern, pedestrian-oriented neighbourhood has more than 650 row home and apartment residences, with the Fremont Riverclub at its centre.

Another example of a master-planned community that goes beyond the realm of imagination, Zibi straddles the banks of the Ottawa River, located in both the City of Ottawa and the City of Gatineau. This multi-phase project, from Windmill Development Group and Dream Unlimited Corp., will transform a derelict section of land into a blend of condominium towers and townhomes, commercial space and unique waterfront plazas.

In the town of Markham, just north of Toronto, the Remington Group has also embarked on an ambitious project that will include a mix of retail, residential and commercial properties.

The $3-billion Downtown Markham project will represent the largest planned, mixed-use development in Canada. The site is home to the Signature Condominium Collection, an exclusive condo-hotel designed by Quadrangle Architects with interiors by II BY IV Design.

Sheldon Levitt, principal with Quadrangle Architects, says that back in the '90s, their client Remington, having acquired the 250-acre property, wanted to build something different than just another bedroom community.

"It was a time when there was a lot of talk about New Urbanism," he said.

"The thinking was that subdivisions are a 20th-century phenomenon and the world is going to more mixed-use communities with a focus on being both pedestrian and transit-oriented and bringing the car under some form of control."

Top: Capital View Park provides a green core to its neighbourhood, framed by views of Parliament Hill. The park starts at Laval Street with a small urban square, including a children's play area and community agricultural plots.

Bottom: East Eddy Plaza is connected to surrounding streets by heritage laneways and linear park extensions enriched by surface storm water management.

Zibi sits in the middle of the Ottawa river, connected to both the city of Ottawa and the city of Gatineau. COURTESY WINDMILL DEVELOPMENTS

Downtown Markham will include retail, residential and commercial properties in a community that includes LEED standard buildings. COURTESY THE REMINGTON GROUP

Part of a live-work-play community, the Fremont Green condos in Port Coquitlam feature one- and two-bedroom, move-in-ready suites on the waterfront. COURTESY MOSAIC HOMES

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metro

Summer gadgets for the home chef

DESIGN CENTRE

Karl Lohnes

Most of us confess to having a winter and summer wardrobe, but many would deny having culinary gadgets specifically for the summer kitchen. Here's my roundup of some sizzling summer faves.

1 Primula 50 oz. Cold Brew Iced Coffee Maker
Keep your caffeine cool during the summer months. $30, BedBathAndBeyond.ca

2 Hamilton Beach Ice Shaver
Stylishly serve cold shrimp over ice or make summer-fun slushies. $50, HamiltonBeach.ca

3 OXO Corn Stripper With Holder
Strip and store the summer harvest with ease. $18, CrateAndBarrel

4 Insulated Laurence Tartan Lunch Bag
Keep your travel delights cool while carrying them in style. $20, StokesStores.com

REAL ESTATE

Hot on the market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1 YORKVILLE

Open house: Here's a one-bedroom penthouse condo suite in a brand new building near Yonge and Bloor. Visit 75 St. Nicholas St., suite 3507 on Aug. 8 and 9 from 2 to 4 p.m.
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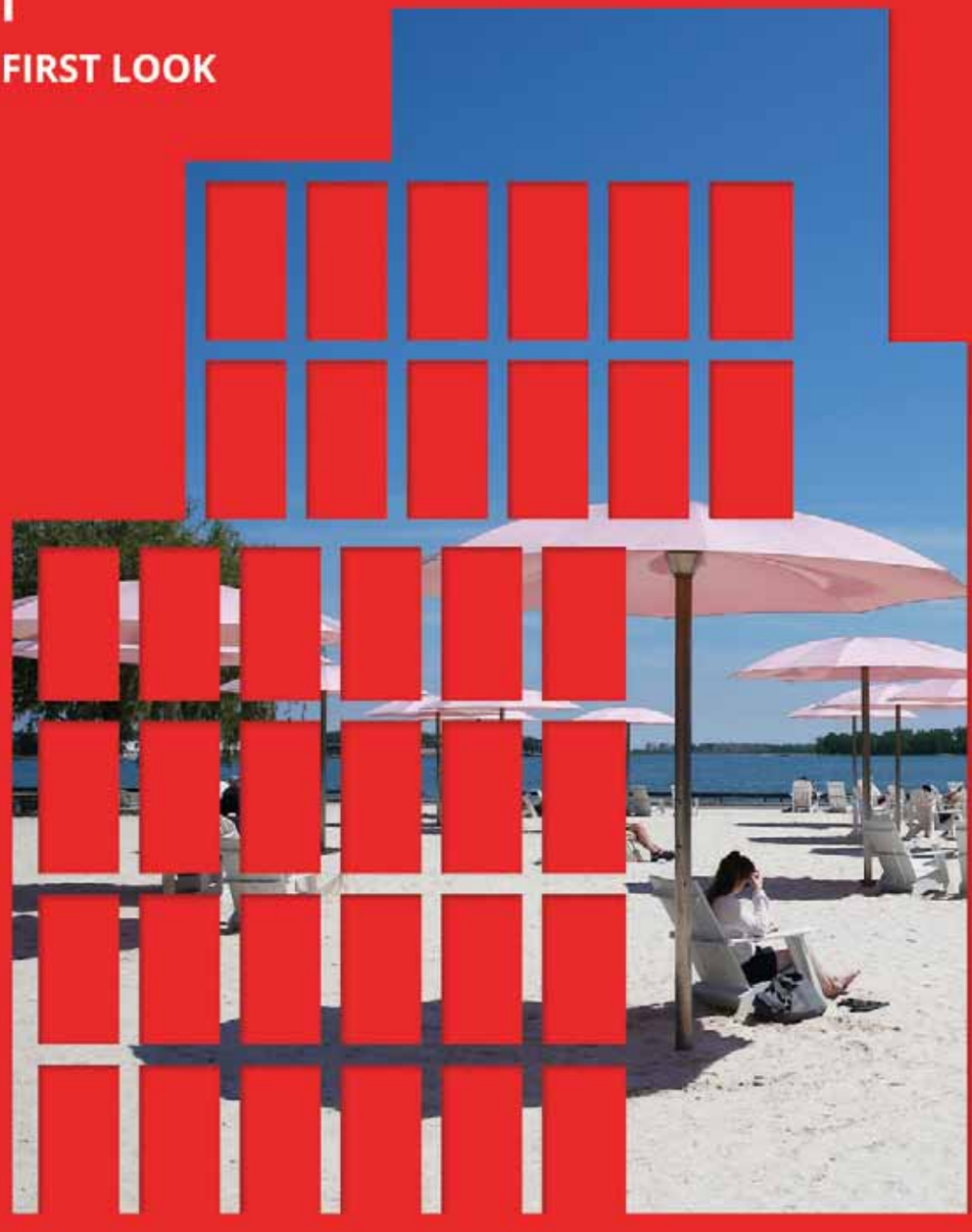

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A quiet refuge

Project overview

The Ravine Collection is the second phase of The Southwood in the heart of Toronto's Upper Beach. Streetcar's most recent boutique midrise condominium caters to urbanites seeking to upsize to a quiet refuge overlooking a protected ravine located at Kingston Road and Southwood Drive.

Building amenities

The condos are outfitted with modern appliances, quartz countertops and backsplash, and oversized cabinets. Suites feature floor-to-ceiling windows with ravine views, while ground-floor, two-storey suites have ravine yards. Gas barbecue connections are included on each balcony or terrace.

Location and transit

It's a 15-minute walk from both the Main Street subway station and the Danforth GO Transit station, and there are streetcars and buses right outside. Runners and cyclists will enjoy the nearby three-kilometre waterfront boardwalk.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

What: The Southwood Ravine Collection
Builder: Streetcar Developments
Architect: TACT Architecture
Interiors: Seven Haus Design
Location: 646 Kingston Rd.
Building: A six-storey building with 59 units
Sizes: From 500 to 1,720 sq. ft.
Pricing: Starting at $249,900
Suites: From one bedroom to multi-level three bedrooms
Status: Pre-construction phase
Occupancy: Spring of 2017
Sales centre: 663 Kingston Rd.
Hours: Monday to Thursday 1 to 7 p.m., weekends 12 to 5 p.m., closed Fridays
Phone: 416-750-7506
Website: thesouthwood.com
Email: sales@redpathcondos.com

In the neighbourhood

The Southwood is set amongst a familial streetscape of gourmet shops and boutiques, and good eateries, like the Beech Tree restaurant, the Stone Pizza and No Bull burgers. Nearby, there's Collected Joy gift shop, the Yellow House Gallery, great schools and greenspaces.

ADVICE

Condo's not ready — now what?

LEGAL MATTERS

Jeffrey Cowan

Q: I recently purchased a condo and went in for interim possession a couple of month back. When I inspected the property there were a lot of problems with basic things like an entire window that had a board over it, huge scrapes on floors, warped floor boards from the leaking window (with the board over it), and big patches to the walls.

In consultation with my lawyer we decided we were not going to start paying them $1,700 dollars a month for a downtown condo that was not livable. Enough said.

Yesterday, the builder's lawyer came back to us and said that the final closing was coming up and we had to "pony" up the full price and finally buy the property and that everything had been fixed. We went to the property and not only had they not fixed any of the problems, there were more: most notably the air conditioning wasn't working. We refused to close.

What's your advice?

A: The basic standard to allow purchasers to move into a property is that it has to be secure, properly supplied with utilities and plumbing. The rest of the problems are supposed to be rectified with your warranty program.

The problem here seems to be that your problems are grey, in nature. A board on a window doesn't mean your condo isn't secure, but surely the builder should know that water leaking through the window when we have a summer downpour is going to ruin the flooring again …

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Bryan Tuckey

The building, development and professional renovation industry is a major driver of economic growth and prosperity of our region. It is responsible for creating thousands of jobs across a variety of sectors that help build quality, complete communities and revitalize existing neighbourhoods.

You'd be surprised to learn how many people it takes to build a new community. It is estimated that each crane you see across the region represents up to 500 jobs. These include tradespeople, urban planners, lawyers, engineers, architects, sales people, marketers, builders, land developers and more.

The industry is also one that is heavily impacted by government policy decisions made at every level — in local municipalities, by the province and nationally. When the federal government introduced stricter mortgage lending rules in August 2012, it spawned a significant decline in consumer confidence, resulting in drastically reduced sales of new homes and condominiums across the GTA. The effects lasted throughout 2013, which recorded the second-lowest new-home sales in the last decade.

"It is estimated that each crane you see across the region represents up to 500 jobs.

Since one year's new-home sales translate into many of the next year's jobs, the effect of that federal policy change was felt by thousands of GTA residents employed by the building and development industry in 2014. A recent report released by the Canadian Home Builders' Association revealed that annual job creation in new-home construction fell to 68,000 in 2014 — down by almost 11,000 jobs from the year before.

That is a very significant number, and it is directly related to the amount of new housing starts, which decreased by 5,000 homes across the region.

This is highly detrimental to our regional economic growth and prosperity. In 2013 the building, development and renovation industry paid $9.7 billion in wages across the GTA. These wages later showed up as purchases across the region, fuelling other industries while contributing a significant amount of tax revenue to our provincial and federal governments. Last year those wages were reduced to $8.6 billion.

It is important that the health and stability of our industry is considered when introducing new changes to public policy, as it is quite likely to affect the health and stability of our local economy.

BRYAN TUCKEY IS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AND A LAND-USE PLANNER WHO HAS WORKED FOR MUNICIPAL, REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS. FOLLOW HIM ON TWITTER @BILDGTA, FACEBOOK.COM/BILDGTA, AND BILDBLOGS.CA.

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Game of Thrones creator, and New York Jets fan, George R.R. Martin watched practice with GM Mike Maccagnan

MLB

Sanchez backs off appeal of ban

Blue Jays reliever Aaron Sanchez has dropped his appeal of a three-game suspension.

The right-hander was suspended and fined on Tuesday for his role in a bench-clearing altercation with the Kansas City Royals, but his appeal allowed him to pitch last night.

Sanchez was punished for intentionally throwing a pitch at Alcides Escobar with warnings in place during the top of the eighth inning of Toronto's 5-2 win Sunday.

Aaron Sanchez TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sanchez denied intentionally hitting Escobar, arguing his pitch just got away.

He began serving his suspension Wednesday night against the Minnesota Twins and will be eligible to play on Saturday in the second of a three-game series in the Bronx against the New York Yankees.

Blue Jays manager John Gibbons was also suspended a game for his role in the incident.

He served his punishment Tuesday night, taking in Toronto's 3-1 win over the Minnesota Twins from a luxury suite.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BLUE JAYS SLAM TWINS Jose Bautista belts a grand slam in the Blue Jays' 9-7 win over the Twins at the Rogers Centre on Wednesday night. Josh Donaldson and Edwin Encarnacion also homered for the Jays, who have won four straight games.

STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Matthias itching to show allegiance to team he loves

NHL

However, Leafs may trade fan for draft picks or prospects

Shawn Matthias didn't sign with the Maple Leafs to get traded.

But it would sure be tempting for the Leafs — if, as expected, they tumble their way to the bottom of the standings in 2015-16 — to sell the six-foot-four, 27-year-old Matthias to a playoff-bound team for coveted draft picks and/or prospects.

> **"I've got to prove to them that I belong here and show them that I really do care about being with this organization and how badly I want it. That's my goal.** Shawn Matthias

That certainly seems to be the template president Brendan Shanahan has laid out in his short time running the team. And it could be the narrative Matthias, who signed a one-year deal in early July, and others play under. Matthias hopes it isn't.

"Every day I'm a Leaf, I'm going to be pumped up and do what I can for the Toronto Maple Leafs," he said in a recent phone interview. "Hopefully it's for a lot longer than what I'm signed for, but that's out of my control.

"I've got to prove to them that I belong here and show them that I really do care about being with this organization and how badly I want it. That's my goal.

"If there are rumours and all that, I'll try not to let it bother me. I will laugh it off as much as I can. I'm sure those questions will come. It seems those questions come every year. I can't let it get to me."

Shawn Matthias GETTY IMAGES

Matthias grew up a Leafs fan in Mississauga and now lives about five minutes from his parents' house, where he grew up. It is a dream come true to join the Leafs. Matthias is one of seven Ontario players now on the Leafs' roster, joining fellow newcomers Taylor Beck (St. Catharines), Scott Harrington (Kingston) and Nick Spaling (Palmerston), the returning Daniel Winnik (Toronto), and holdovers Nazem Kadri (London) and Peter Holland (Toronto).

"They were at the top of my list of where I wanted to go," said Matthias, who scored 18 goals for the Vancouver Canucks last season. "There's been a lot of positive changes as well. I just can't wait to get started. This is the team you grew up watching, the team you grew up cheering for." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MLS

Atomic Ant carries TFC past Orlando

Sebastian Giovinco stole the show again Wednesday, scoring a hat trick to lead Toronto FC to a 4-1 win over Orlando City.

It was another MVP performance for the former Juventus star, who is forcing early revisions to the Toronto record book in his debut MLS season.

The five-foot-four Italian known as the Atomic Ant now has 16 goals, moving him into the league lead ahead of Columbus' Kei Kamara (15) and breaking Toronto's single-season record of 15 set in 2010 by Dwayne De Rosario. With 10 assists, Giovinco has been directly involved in 26 of Toronto's 36 goals (72.2 per cent) this season.

And there are still 13 league games left.

Collen Warner scored Toronto's other goal, heading in a Jonathan Osorio cross off a short corner in the 81st minute. Osorio made the goal with a fine spin move to elude a defender.

Luke Boden scored for Orlando (1-4-1).

The win moved Toronto (9-8-4) four points ahead of Orlando (7-10-6) in the tight Eastern Conference playoff race.

Both teams were missing a lot of star power, with $18.42 million US worth of designated player — based on their 2015 salaries — on the sidelines. Orlando's Kaka and Toronto's Michael Bradley, the two captains, were both injured while Toronto striker Jozy Altidore was suspended due to a weekend red card in New England.

WEDNESDAY In Toronto

TORONTO	ORLANDO
4	1

That left the spotlight on Giovinco and Orlando rookie Cyle Larin before 26,648 at BMO Field.

Despite the marquee absences, it was an entertaining game with Giovinco pulling the strings on the Toronto attack when he wasn't threatening goal himself.

The 20-year-old Larin came into the game with five goals in his last two outings, tying Damani Ralph's 2003 league rookie record of 11 goals.

The Brampton native had a chance to set the record four minutes in when a long ball beat both Jackson and Damien Perquis, leaving Larin behind the Toronto defence. But Joe Bendik stopped him from close range and Larin's shot off the rebound deflected off a defender.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto FC's Sebastian Giovinco celebrates one of his three goals against Orlando City SC on Wednesday night at BMO Field. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Josh Cassidy's crazy world

PARAPAN 2015

Wheelchair racer admits having legs is a 'handicap'

Josh Cassidy is unusual for a man in a wheelchair: He can walk with crutches but sometimes chooses not to.

For Cassidy, an elite wheelchair racer who holds multiple Canadian titles and the record for the fastest Boston Marathon ever, legs are nothing but deadweight.

Just having them puts him at a disadvantage with wheelchair athletes who have lower leg amputations. And, the more he uses them, the more muscle he builds and that adds up to even more weight for his arms to push around in a race.

"It definitely crosses my mind," Cassidy says. "How much faster would I be?" He means if he had no legs. If the childhood cancer that put him in a wheelchair had manifested itself differently, or if he'd come by his disability through an accident, or ...

These are the kind of what-ifs that elite para athletes actually think about, Cassidy says, just as an Olympic gymnast might wish to be shorter or a pro ball player to be taller. And, yes, he knows just how odd that will sound to many people.

"It's funny," he says, of his leg function. "In every other aspect I'm fortunate but when it comes to racing it's, haha, a handicap."

Cassidy's quandary goes a long way to illustrating just how serious the athletes who have come to Toronto for the Aug 7-to-15 Pararpan Am Games are about their sport. For them, sport is not about participation or, primarily, about inspiring others; it's about winning a gold medal. That's what the years of hard training and sacrifice have all been for.

Cassidy was just 2-1/2 weeks old when he had his first surgery to remove cancerous tumours from his spine and abdomen. Paralysis started in his feet and spread to his legs.

"They said he'd never be able to walk," his mother Anne Cassidy recalls. He did.

For the first seven years of his life he underwent repeated surgeries on his hips and legs and, each time, he had to relearn how to make his body work.

"He taught himself to walk every time. He proved them wrong," she says. "He was determined." Determined. That's the same word his coach, Amanda Fader, uses to describe the 30-year-old from Ottawa.

Josh Cassidy STEVE RUSSELL/ TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

> **"It definitely crosses my mind. How much faster would I be?**
>
> Wheelchair racer Josh Cassidy on carrying additional weight of his legs

His current athletic endeavor is tweaking his racing chair trying to find the perfect setup that will propel him to victory.

Making the most of what he has — a powerful stroke — is one way Cassidy hopes to get faster and overcome the disadvantage of carting around those legs. "He's got it in his head that this is something he needs to do," Fader says, of the changes he's been making.

The 2012 London Games were Cassidy's second Paralympics and, after setting the record in the Boston Marathon that spring, he was on a high and expected to medal at those Games.

But he got sick just before and, on antibiotics, the best he managed on the track was fifth in the 800-metre race. He was a disappointing 12th in the marathon, his signature event.

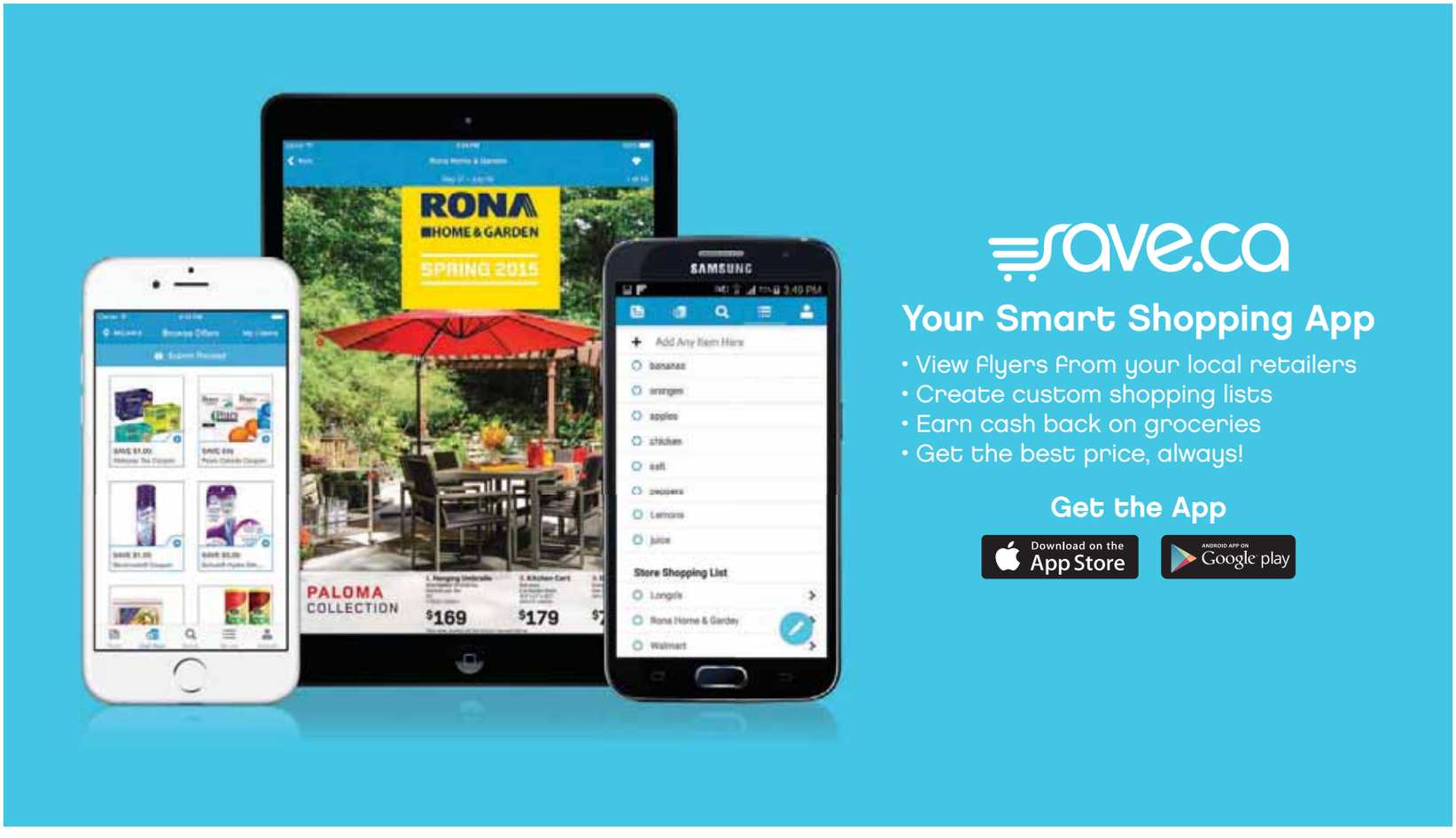
Since then, Cassidy has put a lot on the line in his quest to be the best in the world by next summer's Paralympics in Rio.

Small changes can make a big difference in high performance sport — both good and bad. If Cassidy puts on a little extra leg muscle, for example, not only is that extra weight to push on the track, it takes up room his diaphragm needs to expand and makes it harder for him to breathe in his bent racing position.

"Closer to the big competitions I'll try not to walk as much because, if I can lose a little bit of leg mass, that's an advantage, it's just deadweight for chair racing," he says.

"That's something I have to overcome." Just as Cassidy has already overcome the adversity of being partially paralyzed, he intends to find a way to be the fastest wheelchair racer possible.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



LIVERPOOL FC

Reds reshaping on the fly once again

When Liverpool walks out against Stoke at the Britannia Stadium on the opening day of the season, a new man will lead the way.

Steven Gerrard's departure for Major League Soccer means a captaincy change at Anfield for the first time since the iconic midfielder wore the armband in October 2003.

WILD CARD
Liverpool is expecting oft-injured, but highly clinical, striker Daniel Sturridge back from hip surgery some time in September.

Gerrard's last appearance in a Liverpool shirt ended in humiliation with the Reds suffering a 6-1 loss away to Stoke — the club's heaviest defeat since 1963.

Liverpool returns to the scene of that season-ending rout with newly-installed leader Jordan Henderson at the helm as it begins an era without its once talismanic figure.

Manager Brendan Rodgers has been among the biggest spenders in the transfer market, adding eight new faces to his squad. Despite some calls for his exit following the disappointing end to last season, the club's owners have yet again backed their manager's lavish spending.

Christian Benteke arrived from Aston Villa in a 32.5 million pound ($50.7 million US) deal while Brazilian forward Roberto Firmino joined from German side Hoffenheim for a reported fee of 29 million pounds ($45.8 million).

Rodgers remained manager despite the club sliding from second in 2013-14 to sixth last season and out of the lucrative Champions League places.

James Milner appears to have been identified by Rodgers as a positional replacement for Gerrard. Milner said Rodgers has promised to deploy him in central midfield and this was a key factor in his decision to leave Manchester City, where he played varying roles.

Liverpool kicks off another league challenge Sunday at Stoke on Trent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

James Milner, left, will be counted on to provide support to new captain Jordan Henderson in Liverpool. MATT KING/GETTY IMAGES

Sterling isn't City's silverware solution

PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW

Stalwarts will need to return to form if Man City to challenge

Manchester City has gambled on Raheem Sterling being the key signing that manager Manuel Pellegrini needs to lift his team back to the top of English soccer.

But it likely won't be the fortunes of the 20-year-old England winger — the most expensive acquisition in Europe this off-season at 49 million pounds ($76 million US) — that will determine whether City wins the Premier League title for the third time in five years.

Pellegrini needs big seasons from his three most important senior players if the third and, as it stands, final year of his tenure at Etihad Stadium is to end in his second English championship after winning in 2014.

Since 2010, Vincent Kompany, Yaya Toure and Sergio Aguero have been the spine of a City team that has catapulted from drifting underachiever to formidable heavyweight, in England if not yet in Europe. But question marks hang over all three going into the new season.

Can Kompany regain the form that made him one of the world's top-rated defenders two years ago? Last season, he couldn't get in the team toward season's end despite being captain.

Is Toure up for another tough year? The central midfielder is the most destructive force in England at his peak but at 33, his motivation levels were questioned last season.

And can Aguero stay fit and shoulder the burden of being City's chief striker in what is set to be a 4-5-1 formation, different to Pellegrini's traditional 4-4-2? The Argentina international has regular injury spells that often prove damaging.

26
Sergio Aguero led the Premier League in scoring last season with 26 goals.

It will be a major surprise if City loses its now-accustomed spot in the top four. City has finished first or second for the last four years and, in Spain playmaker David Silva, has another of the most admired players in the English game.

The season is beginning with rumours already having returned of Bayern Munich's Pep Guardiola being lined up as Pellegrini's successor next summer. The Chilean incumbent knows his time could soon be up.

But regaining the league trophy would make him arguably the most successful manager City has ever had. Could that make the Abu Dhabi-based hierarchy think twice about letting him go?

Manchester City opens 2015-16 on the road against West Bromwich Albion on Monday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Raheem Sterling's 49-million pound summer transfer from Liverpool to Manchester City is the most expensive transaction between two British clubs ever. MAL FAIRCLOUGH/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 12 minutes

Serves 6.

Ingredients
- 1 cup onions
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- 8 oz lean ground beef
- 1 cup medium salsa
- 6 small flour tortillas (6")
- 1/3 cup shredded lettuce
- 1 cup diced plum tomato
- ½ cup shredded old light cheddar cheese
- 1 cup black beans, drained and rinsed

Directions
1. In a large skillet sprayed with oil, add onions and sauté for three minutes until tender. Add garlic, chili powder and Worcestershire and sauté another minute. Add beef and sauté until no longer pink, about three minutes. Add salsa, cover and simmer for five minutes on low heat until most of the salsa has been absorbed.
2. Divide meat mixture over centre of tortillas. Divide lettuce, tomato, cheese and beans over top. Fold in half and serve warm.

Nutrition per serving
- Calories 195
- Protein 15 g
- Carbohydrates 25 g
- Fibre 3 g
- Total fat 3.5 g
- Saturated fat 1 g
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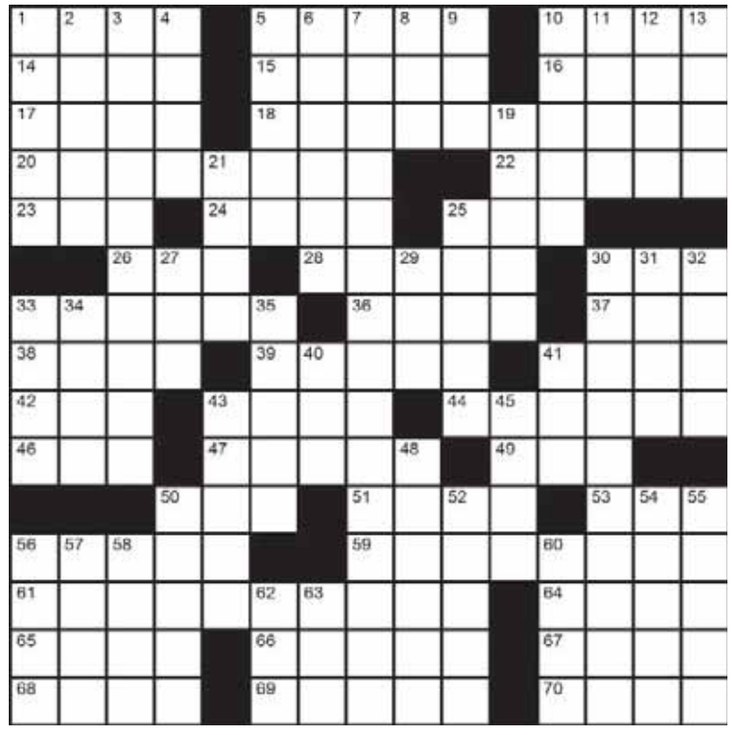

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15. The 1890s, sometimes called The __ Decade
16. Brag about
17. Negative reply
18. Gathering/collection
20. One consists of a board, rooks, pawns, etc.: 2 wds.
22. Silk-like fabric
23. Lieutenant Tasha __ (Character on "Star Trek: The Next Generation")
24. Chips __! (Chocolate chip cookie)
25. Wager
26. Cartoonist Mr. Keane
28. Fashion sense
30. Uniquely-spelled mountain basin
33. Immediately!
36. Richly-__ (Fall fashions, often)
37. Pi's follower
38. "My Fair Lady" (1964) star Mr. Harrison's
39. Alpine dry wind
41. Egotistical
42. Poetic tribute
43. In the distance
44. Nickname for Canadian rapper Drake
46. ABBA hit
47. Obscure
49. Stable stuff
50. 'F' in FWIW
51. River of England
53. Mason's load-holder
56. Cold shoulder it
59. Type of tree
61. Canadair CT-133 __ __ (Retired military aircraft)
64. Mr. McCormack
65. Competent
66. Rock gig venue
67. Voyaging on the ocean
68. Fruit cocktail bit
69. __ Lodge (Veronica's dad in Archie Comics)
70. Big name in computers

DOWN
1. HLN's "__ Grace"
2. Hawaiian 'hi'
3. Canada Post door-to-door mail delivery replacements
4. Souls: French
5. Bang up
6. Promenades
7. Hanging-in-a-bag puppet on "The Friendly Giant": 3 wds.
8. 'Impress' suffix
9. Precious stone
10. Plaudit
11. Hospital photo
12. Corn dog
13. British actor Clive
19. "The Rare __" (1966)
21. Table shaker contents
25. Mix
27. __ and outs
29. "I __ Ya Papi" by Jennifer Lopez
30. Neil Young's backing band: 2 wds.
31. __ by (Pass briskly)
32. Tommy James & The Shondells tune, when repeated
33. Advantages
34. Decorate anew
35. Bid
40. Goon
41. Through
43. Dwelling
45. Canadian comedian Caroline
48. Where Georgetown is the capital city
50. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's bill, fun-style
52. "Buzz off!"
54. Bay window
55. Sticker
56. Business person's "Fast!"
57. Feeling
58. Stewing pot
60. Fermented honey drink
62. Encourager's exclamation!
63. __ Lanka

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Don't waste your time, energy and money on things you don't need and people you don't respect. Resist the urge to get involved in causes and issues that do not concern you directly.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You have made sacrifices in recent weeks and now it is time to do something for yourself. You will feel more positive about your dreams and your place in the world.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
There is no point trying to control every situation you find yourself in — you will wear yourself out if you try. Some things are simply too big for even a Gemini to change.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
If you want to get the most out of the next few days you will need to be more sociable. Let others take the lead and they'll take you places you will thoroughly enjoy.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Employers will go out of their way to help you make the most of your talents. First, though, you need to open up and let them know what it is you desire. They're not mind readers.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Your opinions may be fixed but that does not mean you are completely inflexible. Some of the ideas you have over the next 24 hours will be so unusual that even those who know you well will be surprised.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You don't have to do anything to make this day special, just be yourself and enjoy the wonderful things that come your way. It's possible you could go on a spree and spend too much money but that's nothing new.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Even a Scorpio needs encouragement. Loved ones will go out of their way to reassure you today. It's nice to know you are appreciated.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may not enjoy what you have to do but you have no choice, so get yourself in gear and get it done. Once it is out of the way you can devote yourself to more pleasurable activities.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Listen to what friends and relatives tell you today. If you follow their advice it will save you time and effort on things of no importance. Why learn from mistakes when you can learn from others?

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your doubts about certain relationships will be laid to rest. Loved ones will reassure you that you are always in their hearts and thoughts, no matter how far apart you may be.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't let pride get in the way of securing your future. You cannot do everything on your own, so put your ego aside and join forces.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		5			9		1	
		4	8					
8		6		7	1			5
		1	9		6			7
		3				2		
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